

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LVII.]

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### BIRTHS.

On the 6th April, at 2, Bay View, Kowloon, the wife of S. W. MOORE, of a son.  
At Nganhshien, Szechuan, the wife of ERNEST A. J. THOMAS, C.M.S., of a son.

### MARRIAGE.

On the 2nd April, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, ERNEST LEE, younger son of I. WINTER ALLEN, of Shanghai, to ELIZABETH EMMA, second daughter of GEORGE E. KING, of Northwich, Cheshire.

### DEATHS.

On the 27th February, at the Keeling-Cocos Islands, ALFRED CLUNIE-ROSS, aged 52 years.  
On the 19th March, at Nagasaki, AARON KAPLAN, aged 86 years.  
On the 21st March, at the Residency, Labuan, AGNES ANNIE, the wife of WILLIAM HUGHES PENNEY.  
On the 29th March, at No. 2, Tienong Road, HENRY GEORGE SUTTON, late Lower Yangtze Pilot, aged 68 years.  
On the 31st March, at No. 13, Quinsan Road, Shanghai, SAMUEL GEORGE, infant son of GEORGE and JANET PEACE, aged seven weeks.  
On the 1st April, at "Fern Villa," Dublin Road, Singapore, JOHN DAVID STUART, aged 42 years.  
On the 1st April, at the General Hospital, Singapore, JOHN E. D'SOUZA, late of Sarawak, aged 34 years.

### Hongkong Weekly Press

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### ARRIVALS OF MAIL.

The French mail of the 6th March arrived, per M.M. steamer Yarra, on the 7th April (32 days); the U.S. mail of the 11th March arrived, per P.M. steamer Siberia, on the 7th April (27 days); and the English mail of the 13th March arrived, per P. & O. steamer Coromandel, on the 9th April (28 days).

### HONGKONG.

The number of plague cases in the Colony from January 1st to date is returned at 210.

Mr. G. G. Seth has been appointed Acting Sheriff and Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court at Singapore.

Mr. E. E. Elias, clerk with Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co., died in the Government Civil Hospital on Tuesday, aged 50.

We regret to record the death of Mrs. Wells, wife of Rev. H. R. Wells of the London Missionary Society, Bonham Road. The funeral took place on the 7th inst., at Happy Valley.

Sergeant J. Walters, of the 85th Company Royal Garrison Artillery, Ceylon, has been promoted Company Sergeant-Major to No. 78 Company R.G.A., Hongkong, and will shortly proceed here.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ended 4th April were 316 non-Chinese and 91 Chinese to the former, and 89 non-Chinese and 2,213 Chinese to the latter institution.

The lukong who is charged with the manslaughter of a Chinaman at Au Tau, in the New Terriory, during the quelling of a trifling disturbance that broke out there recently, was brought up at the Magistracy and again remanded.

A heavy fine was imposed at the Magistracy on the 7th inst., upon a Chinaman who was convicted of acting here as tout for gaming-houses in Macao and selling Macao lottery tickets. He was fined altogether \$15, and paid the money, which shows that dealing in lotteries is profitable for someone.

Fong Kwai Sang, a school teacher, who was under remand on a charge of obtaining a bribe of \$11 from Chinese, with a view to influencing his conduct, as a public officer—to wit, a police interpreter, in which capacity he was acting when the alleged offence was committed—failed to respond to his name when it was called at the Police Court on the 7th inst., and his bail of \$500 was estreated. A warrant has been issued for his arrest.

Whilst a cinder-boat was lying alongside the steamer Yuen Sang in the harbour on the 7th inst. the chief officer of the steamer saw one of the coolies throw an iron bar belonging to the ship into the cinder-boat. He caught the Chinaman, and this gave the alarm to the others in the boat, who made off. At the Police Court the captured coolie was sentenced to one month's hard labour for the theft of the bar, which was valued at \$20.

H.E. the Governor has been pleased to recognise Mr. H. M. Hobbs as Vice and Deputy Consul-General for the United States.

St. Patrick's Club billiard tournament was concluded on the 4th inst., and ended in victory for the Kowloon Dock team. The team from the Royal Garrison Artillery was second. The prize, a cue, for the best break was won by Mr. C. M. P. Remedios of the Club Lusitano team, who made a break of 49 points. The prizes were presented immediately after the final tie, and following the presentation an impromptu concert was got up which passed off harmoniously and with great success.

Dr. J. C. Thomson, secretary of the College of Medicine for Chinese, sends us a revised prospectus of the College. From it we note that sixty-eight students have been enrolled to date (1903); of whom twenty-seven have retired on finding the examinations more severe than they anticipated, or for other reasons; twenty-four are now engaged in study at various stages of the curriculum; and seventeen have successfully passed all the professional examinations, and been certified fit for the practice of their profession.

The usually uneventful passages to and fro of the Star Ferry launches were livened on Wednesday in one instance by a "scrap" which took place between two passengers on the upper deck. The bumping of the launch as it negotiated the guiding piles at Kowloon, an accidental treading on the toes of one party by the other, and a churlishly accepted apology, provided the material for the "set-to," which was assuming the appearance of a first-rate "mill" when a peace-maker amongst the other passengers threw oil on the troubled waters and persuaded the pugnacious Kowloonites to leave off "lamming" each other and go home.

Under the auspices of the Odd Volumes Society, Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, lectured in the Chamber of Commerce on the 7th inst. on Jewish Wit and Humour. Commodore C. G. Robinson, R.N., presided over a large audience. The lecture was rich in anecdote and very entertaining. We are sorry that we cannot publish it, as Mr. May stated at the commencement, much to the amusement of his hearers, that he was not desirous of his Hebrew stories becoming public through the Press with the possible result of the exhaustion of a stock which might otherwise last for a year or two. At the conclusion of the lecture, Rev. E. J. Hardy contributed a few examples of Hebrew wit, and Mr. May was awarded a cordial vote of thanks on the motion of the Commodore.

By an accident which occurred in the harbour on the 6th inst., the Kowloon Godown Company were temporarily deprived of the services of one of their launches. The Glasgow steamer Sikh was making slowly for No. 1 wharf, and the Pelican, the launch which met with the mishap, had one end of the steamer's mooring line on board for the purpose of attaching it to the wharf and thus facilitating the operation of mooring. On board the steamer they commenced hauling in the line and gradually the Pelican, which is not much bigger than a sampan, and very light, was dragged close under the stern of the Sikh, whose revolving propeller struck the launch on the bow, knocking a hole therein and causing her to sink in a couple of minutes. The crew were saved. The launch was raised the following day.



## THE CHINESE AND H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

(Daily Press, 6th April.)

The Petition signed by "the leading members of every section of the Chinese community" praying for an extension of the term of Sir HENRY BLAKE as Governor of Hongkong has naturally excited a good deal of comment and no small amount of strong criticism among the European residents in the Colony. No one will gainsay what the petitioners describe as "an acknowledged truth" that His Excellency has completely won the confidence, respect and admiration of the entire Chinese population. None will dispute the fact, that His Excellency has taken a very active interest in all benevolent and charitable institutions and that many of these will be "perpetual monuments of his benevolent Government." But no sanguine expectations can be entertained by the petitioners that their wishes for the extension of His Excellency's term will be acceded to. His Excellency indeed has rightly informed the petitioners that "the regulation by which the duration of a Governor's administration is determined is the result of careful consideration after long experience," and we may add that it is a rule from which departures are very rarely made. Old residents will doubtless recollect a similar effort to retain Sir JOHN POPE HENNESSY at Government House, but it proved unsuccessful.

Though His Excellency Sir HENRY BLAKE, during his term of office, has doubtless wished to promote the interests of the Colony, it cannot be said that he has proved an ideal Governor in the sense of pressing forward the many and important administrative improvements of which the Colony has long stood in need. His Excellency has had to be moved by outside agitation and by the Chamber of Commerce before taking any steps. His Excellency has failed signally to get public work pushed forward. Where is the Post Office? Where are the Law Courts that ought to have been built ere this? Even the Blake Clock Tower stands where it did, a hideous obstruction to traffic. What about the waterworks? The extension of the Taitam waterworks has not been pushed on with the energy that it might have been; and various other public works have languished instead of being vigorously proceeded with. Indeed when we come to read the petition carefully we are struck by the fact that the vagueness of the wording is simply remarkable, and it would indeed be an easy matter for a critic to turn what is intended as a testimonial into a strong criticism of His Excellency's administration. The way in which the author of the petition skates over the facts and tries to make it appear that things desired are things accomplished, or in the way of being accomplished, is simply most delusive. Let us take, for example, what the petitioners say, with regard to the water question. In paragraph 9 they refer to the "increase of the water storage and the better regulation of the water supply" as among the measures which will improve the health of the Colony. We quite agree. But it is necessary to point out that these are things still required and not yet achieved. Increased water storage has been a crying need in the Colony for years, and despite this reference to the matter in paragraph 9, paragraph 13 shows that it is still an unsatisfied demand. In paragraph 13 the petitioners show—

That provision for a largely increased supply of water to the Colony by further arrangements for its conservation and distribution, together with provision for the

housing and spread of the Chinese working classes, is considered by your petitioners to be absolutely necessary for their welfare and the sanitary improvement of the whole Colony, and that your petitioners have good reason to believe that His Excellency the Governor is now devising schemes to meet immediate and future requirements in those respects.

It would be satisfactory to be assured that His Excellency is "now devising schemes to meet the immediate and future requirements," but having regard to the urgency and importance of the matter, we think the water supply question ought to have been advanced far beyond that stage. Perhaps the paragraph in the petition which excites most comment is No. 9, which, among other things, says: "The improvement and augmentation of the police and district watchmen forces, the stern suppression of secret societies, and the deportation of hardened criminals and dangerous characters have tended to preserve the peace and good order of this Colony in a manner the most effective and unsurpassed." These are consummations devoutly to be wished, but the facts certainly do not justify the assertions of the petitioners. The Criminal Statistics published in the *Government Gazette* only a week ago show that during the last five years the increase in "serious offences" in the Colony has been 30 per cent. compared with the figures for the previous five years, and while the return represents a decrease of 21 per cent. in "minor offences" in the same period, it is notorious that a large proportion of the crimes in the Colony—small thefts particularly—are not reported to the police.

While His Excellency deserves credit for what has been achieved to the advantage of trade on the West River by reason of the maintenance of friendly relations with the local Government of Canton, a few words need to be said with reference to the administration of the New Territory, which certainly leaves a great deal to be desired. It has so far not been made the source revenue that it might and ought to be because of the neglect to collect Crown rents. In a speech delivered in August, 1900, to the committee men at Tiápo and P'ing Shan, His Excellency gave it to be understood that the occupiers of land would be accepted as owners, but if the person in occupation was decided upon an investigation of his title not to be the proper owner the amount paid by him as Crown rent would be returned, and the rent collected from the person decided to be the lawful owner. Have the rents in the numerous disputed cases been collected "on account" in the manner above described, or is the collection of such rents still being neglected? The latest Report on the New Territory—that for 1901—showed that while the expenditure was \$534,260, the revenue collected did not amount to more than \$53,890; and we doubt not that the next Report will show that the New Territory is still very far from paying its way. In 1898 Mr. STEWART LOCKHART wrote that he anticipated no difficulty in raising from the outset an annual revenue big enough to meet the cost of administration. What explanation, we wonder, would Mr. LOCKHART offer of the ridiculous failure of his prediction to materialise?

Coming to the final paragraph in the Petition, the Secretary of State for the Colonies is informed "that owing to the unsatisfactory condition of the local monetary currency, and the disturbed and unsettled state of Southern China a crisis may at any moment occur in this Colony and its neighbouring provinces, which

"require at this great emporium of trade a strong Government and a Governor possessed of an intimate knowledge of affairs and the complete confidence of the entire Chinese community." Mr. CHAMBERLAIN might very well say: "Yes, this may be so. But how can any Governor deal with currency?" No Governor, however good, will have it in his hands to deal with currency, which is a measure that can only be dealt with by experts at home. The chief value of the Petition, apart from its high testimony to the admiration of the Chinese community for His Excellency the Governor, is that it serves to point out how much that is necessary in the Colony yet unfortunately remains to be achieved.

## THE DETECTION OF CRIME.

(Daily Press, 3rd April.)

The letter of Mr. HENRY HUMPHREYS calls fresh and forcible attention to a state of things in the Colony that cannot by any person be regarded as either satisfactory or reassuring. Mr. HUMPHREYS describes in a few terse sentences how he has been victimised since his return to the Colony only six weeks ago, and we fear that his experience is not unique. There may be, probably there is, a wave of crime passing over the Colony, due in large measure to the famine in Kwangsi and the hard times in Kwangtung, leading to a great increase in and migration of the predatory class from the mainland to the Colony. Unfortunately the Cantonese criminals know too well the comparatively mild laws of the Colony, which rightly forbid the use of torture, but unwisely, perhaps, limit the use of the rod. The *argumentum baculinum* is thoroughly understood by the Chinese desperado; he respects it when properly and impartially administered and keeps at a distance when assured that retribution will overtake wrong-doing. But he does not fear the law so much when it is tender to his hide, feeds him fairly, and provides good and gratuitous sleeping accommodation. There are, moreover, ways in which justice may be dodged in Hongkong, such as a breakdown in the evidence, the establishment of an *alibi*, or the occasional intimidation of witnesses. The Colony also affords a pleasant hunting ground to the Chinese criminal, whose worst risk is a period of hard labour in a comfortable gaol, where his food and lodging are at any rate assured.

If, however, the conditions are such as to invite visits from marauders from the Two Kwang provinces, is it not the more necessary that the Police of the Colony should be exceptionally alert and exceptionally efficient? Such at any rate seems the obvious conclusion that would be come to by any unprejudiced outsider. That the Police Force of Hongkong is neither sufficiently active nor sufficiently versed in detective work is all too plainly apparent from the numbers of undetected crimes and the constant failures to recover stolen property. We need not go further than the Report of the Captain Superintendent of Police for the year 1902, published in the last issue of the *Government Gazette*, for evidence on this point. According to this return the value of property reported stolen during the year was \$248,469.04, while the value of property recovered by the Police and restored to owners was only \$10,383.22, about a twenty-fourth part of the whole! It is true that the sum included \$50,000 reported stolen from the steamship *Zafiro*, which may have occurred out of the Colony, but even allowing for that the amount of stolen property recovered



was absolutely trivial. The same report states that thirty-four gang robberies were committed in 1902, and that in twenty-four cases no arrest was made, and similarly out of eighteen cases of street and highway robbery in only six instances were arrests made. Fourteen cases of robberies on boats and junks were made during the year, and in connection with nine of these 28 persons were arrested, while in five cases no arrests were made. From this it would appear that the Water Police were more vigilant than the land force. However that may be, it is only too evident that there is something sadly wanting in our Police administration, and more especially in the detective department. Burglaries are obviously on the increase, and the utter failure of the Police to get on the track of the perpetrators is not only alarming and disquieting to peaceful citizens, but it affords such encouragement to the thieves that crime is likely to develop into a most serious epidemic. It is many years since such a wave of crime passed over the Colony.

On the last occasion when a tidal wave of crime visited Hongkong, about 1878, during the administration of Sir JOHN POPE HENNESSY, armed raids were perpetrated in such public localities as Wing Lok Street, Seymour Terrace, and the docks at Hung-ham. The influx of bad characters was due partly to the reduction of fares on the river steamboats to ten cents during a strenuous competition, and partly to the fame of the "Merciful Mail's" administration. Under his rule flogging had been practically abolished as a punishment, the régime of the Gaol made less severe, the Light and Pass Ordinance suspended, and the Chinese generally given to understand that all precautions adopted for the control of an alien and disorderly population, then continually migrating, were abolished as odious race distinctions at the instance of His Excellency the Governor. The better class of Chinese for the most part looked askance on these innovations of the peppery little autocrat, doubting the wisdom of concessions that so clearly lent encouragement to evil-doers, though they accepted, without much effusion, the concessions which with considerable theatrical effect were tendered them by the Head of the Executive. The Police, however, were then put on their mettle, owing to the outcry that followed the raids and robberies that had astonished and alarmed the community. At that time the Force possessed some good detectives, amongst others the ubiquitous QUINCEY, who usually managed to get on the trail of the criminals. There is now, unfortunately, no QUINCEY in the Police Force, and it is to be feared that the Detective Department is very weak. If we might be permitted to judge by results we should unhesitatingly assert that it is extremely weak. The question is: What is to be done? Is the present state of things to continue, or are the detective officers to receive proper encouragement and assistance in playing their part in the repression of crime. Or are the detectives incompetent or unreliable? Chinese detectives have to be used, and by the very nature of their occupation enormous power and great opportunities for making money are closely and indefatigably watched. The question arises: Is our Detective Force properly manned, properly organized, and efficiently worked? On this subject we may have more to say later on.

(Daily Press, 8th April)

We had occasion the other day to comment adversely on the shortcomings of the Detective Department of the Police in the arrest of criminals and the discovery of stolen

property. We propose to-day to deal with another branch of the same subject, not less important and not less unsatisfactory. When the Chinese were invited to settle in this Colony on the occasion of its first occupation by the British Government they were guaranteed full protection in their persons and properties, and on the strength of this guarantee they flocked into Hongkong and under the ægis of the British flag prosecuted trade and industries that have largely aided to make the prosperity of the port. During the sixty years of British occupation the Chinese have grown to value and appreciate the security to life and property, the freedom of movement, and the facilities for trade and commerce which are afforded under British rule and its just and equal laws. It is the duty and the interest of the local Government to see that this guarantee remains unchallenged and unimpaired, that the same absolute security to life and property, the same freedom to trade is continued to the Chinese frequenting the Colony as were afforded in the time of Sir HENRY PORTINGER, and other administrators onwards. If, at any time, through lack of firmness or want of thoroughness in any of the administrative departments this guarantee is impaired it cannot fail to have a bad effect on the minds of the Chinese population and will cause a loss of confidence in the Government not easily to be restored.

It is much to be feared that, in consequence of the slackening of the reins in the Police department, such a crisis is gradually being developed, though the complaints so far are subdued and pathetic rather than sonorous and clamorous. But from what we can gather there can be no doubt that a feeling of uneasiness, if not of positive alarm, prevails among a section of the Chinese population at the present time. Both in the local and in the Canton papers rumours are rife of outrages here on Chinese of known Reform proclivities, which if not absolutely known to be true are *ben trovato*. One of these stories is to the effect that an old man, reported to be HUNG, a leader of the Kwangsi rebels, was recently assassinated in a house at Saiyingpoon (of course unknown to the Police), and his body smuggled to Canton. The alleged assassins are said to have been handsomely rewarded for their work. One of the Hongkong native papers asserts that the Kwangtung Government maintain a staff of spies in this Colony, for the purpose of finding out and reporting any Chinese supposed to be of progressive ideas or advocates of reform. It is also believed by many members of the Chinese community that the Kwangtung Government have a list of upwards of one hundred Chinese of the influential and enlightened class in this Colony marked down as persons to be dealt with when opportunity offers. Such opportunities occur when persons labelled as Reformers visit Canton, or any of their family or friends place themselves in the clutches of the mandarins. That there is some good reason for apprehension may well be inferred from the fate of the unfortunate Chinese schoolmaster who was brutally murdered in his house in Gage Street on the 10th January, 1901, a crime which has never yet been punished, the Police utterly failing to track the authors down or to discover their personality.

According to Chinese accounts, there is always, every day, a chance of the repetition of that tragedy, and the next victim may not improbably be a person of greater distinction. The *wei-yuens* who are led, by offer of substantial rewards, to plan

disappearance of "wanted" individuals, may at any moment endeavour to vindicate their claim to be successful emissaries of their Government, and a new but secret disappearance from the Colony will be the result. We are not writing in any alarmist spirit. We are well aware that the rumour to which the tea shops and newspapers give currency must be heavily discounted, but there is no smoke without fire, and it is at least certain that the Cantonese spy is always among us watching for an opportunity for working mischief. It has been the pride and boast of Great Britain that her soil provides a safe refuge for the political exile from other lands, the man who for conscience sake has been compelled to seek an asylum beneath the Union Jack, and no exception must be made against the Chinese advocate of reform in government. If Chinese criminals take refuge on these shores it is open to the Chinese Government to apply for their rendition, and this has never been refused when a case has been proved against the person applied for. But when political assassination is threatened or committed in the territory of a friendly State it is high time the Government of such State took measures to meet and defeat the machinations of the Chinese officials or their myrmidons. To do so successfully, however, and detect and prevent murders like that of the Chinese schoolmaster in Gage Street, a very much better and more effective Detective service than now exists in the Colony must be organized.

## THE GAGE STREET MURDER.

(Daily Press, 9th April)

Since our leader in yesterday's issue was penned, we learn that the alleged murderer of YEUNG KU WAN, the schoolmaster, in Gage Street, has been arrested, and was taken before the Police Magistrate on Tuesday, and charged with the crime. He was remanded until the 15th instant, and will undergo his trial for the deed. If it be proved against him, he will of course in due time expiate his crime on the gallows at the Victoria Gaol. It is satisfactory at least that an arrest has been made at last, though not until two years and a quarter after the perpetration of the murder. Better late than never, however, and we must congratulate the police on having at length, through information received, accomplished an arrest. Whether the right bird has been caged remains to be seen, but we will hope that no mistake has been made in the identity of the man. The crime was one of an exceptionally dastardly nature, the victim being a perfectly peaceful and unoffending person, who, driven to take up his residence here by persecution in his native province, was attempting quietly to make a living by training the young idea to shoot. If the actual criminal has been captured, it will be matter of congratulation also by reason of the fact that the arrest will serve as a lesson and a warning to other agents or tools of the Chinese Government, and help to persuade them that the British law has a long arm and memory, even though its administrators are often very slow to move and extremely difficult to convince. If only we can persuade the Chinese that justice is not to be hoodwinked in this Colony, *malgré* the secret efforts of Chinese in the pay of the Viceroy of the Two Kwang, something substantial will have been effected towards putting a stop to the terrorising of peaceful Chinese residents.

H.E. the Governor has proclaimed Manila to be a port or place at which infectious or contagious disease prevails.



## MANCHURIA.

(Daily Press, 7th April.)

Twelve months ago to-morrow the Convention was signed at Peking by which H.M. the Emperor of all the Russias out of a desire to give "a new proof of his love of peace and of his sentiments of friendship towards H.M. the Emperor of China" agreed to restore to the Chinese Government the right to exercise governmental and administrative powers in Manchuria as they were before the occupation by the Russian troops. It will be remembered that Russia agreed to evacuate the province in three stages at half-yearly intervals. Six months after the signing of the Convention she undertook that the Russian troops from the south-west portion of the province of Mukden as far as the Liao River should be withdrawn and the railway restored to China. The railway has been restored, but as for the withdrawal of the troops, no one outside the British Foreign Office appears satisfied that Russia has fulfilled or has any intention of fulfilling the terms of the binding agreement. The accounts of all who have studied the subject on the spot agree that what Russia means by a withdrawal of her troops is that they shall be withdrawn to strategic points along the line of railway nominally for the protection of the railway. Virtually Russia's "evacuation" is such as does not to any appreciable degree relinquish her hold upon the province. During the last six months, according to the terms of the Convention, Russia should have withdrawn her troops from the remaining part of the province of Mukden and from the province of Kirin, and during the ensuing six months she has undertaken to complete the evacuation by withdrawing the remainder of the Russian troops in the province of Hei-lung-kiang. Very little information about the movements of the Russian troops in Manchuria become known to the outside world, but the Tartar Generals are naturally keeping a keen eye on all that happens. They have noted the concentration of Russian troops along the line of railway, and the Generals stationed near the Russian frontiers have also reported the arrival of considerable accessions to the strength of the force in the province. Dr. MORRISON, after touring through the province and noting the rapid growth of Russian cities, and the other abounding indications of permanent occupation, has expressed the opinion that only armed force can now drive Russia out of Manchuria, the armed force of some other Power than Chinese. Not long since a Chinese paper gave what purported to be the text of a number of proposals made by Russia to China which in effect amount to joint administration of the province. It is abundantly clear that Russia has no intention to restore the governmental and administrative rights in Manchuria to the Chinese Government and it is important to bear in mind that Russia's engagement to withdraw all her troops is contingent upon the following circumstances:—"That the Chinese Government assumes the obligations to protect by every possible means the railway and its staff, and is equally obliged to safeguard in Manchuria the security of all Russian subjects in general who may be there, and all enterprises undertaken by them." These "enterprises," as we have frequently pointed out, are being developed with marvellous energy, and it may be said with the utmost confidence that when October arrives, by which time according to

the Convention "the complete evacuation of the Russian troops" should have taken place, Russia will not be lacking in excuses for failure to fulfil her engagement.

## THE SITUATION IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 9th April.)

A few days ago we had something to say about the alarmist rumours which according to New York telegrams appearing in Manchu papers have been and still are agitating the public in the United States with regard to the situation in China. Reports which have been circulating in the papers of Europe have been of an equally alarming nature. A correspondent sends us for example an extract from a Lancashire paper which under a general heading gives three or four telegraphic despatches on the subject from different places—from Tientsin, Odessa, and St. Petersburg—all of them agreeing as to the inevitability of a great anti-foreign rebellion in China in the course of a few months or even weeks. "Nearly the whole Celestial Empire," according to the Odessa despatch, "is ramified by a huge network of secret Boxers' committees, who only await the opportune moment, and a given signal to make another and more desperate attempt to sweep the detested white barbarians out of the country." The Boxer organisation, it is added, is far more widespread and complete, more powerful and more determined than it was four years ago. The St. Petersburg telegram is of similar purport, and mentions the absurd report that "the Japanese are taking an active part in organising the next movement, and that their spies and agitators are at work in Manchuria and elsewhere." Such a statement bears its own refutation, for if any movement of the kind is maturing the Japanese are not likely to find themselves in a position different from other foreigners in the country. The *Standard's* special correspondent at Tientsin gives colour to these alarming reports by telegraphing that "everyone is talking of the anti-foreign movement believed to be inevitable within the next few months," that the few Chinese really friendly to foreigners are emphatic in their assurance that a deep-laid plan underlies the extreme cordiality shown to the Legations by the Court, and that the elaborate scheme of entertainments prepared at the new year not only in the Palace but by all the leading officials had been prepared with the object of lulling to rest any suspicions which gossip might perchance arouse.

No wonder that residents in China are beginning to receive letters from friends at home who have become anxious for their safety. Whilst we deprecate alarm, and are prepared to heavily discount many of the rumours which have been current during the last six months, it would be idle to ignore altogether the fact that from a variety of causes, China at the present time is in such a state of unrest that what to-day may be regarded as "microscopic fears," as a correspondent describes them, may to-morrow be fears which need no microscope. The chief element of danger we think, is in the province of Kansu. It is here where the notorious Prince TUAN and General TUNG FU-HSIANG are surrounded by a very large force who are described as ready for action, and the soldiers, we have further been told, boast that their object is an anti-foreign one, and that "this time no one is to escape." The rumour which has been prevalent in Hupoh

is that these two leaders are bent on deposing the present Emperor and putting on the Throne the ex-Hair Apparent, PU CHUN, who is now with his father Prince TUAN at Ninghsia in Kansu. They are reported to have sent an ultimatum to the Empress-Dowager to this effect, threatening to take the two provinces of Shensi and Kansu, and make them a separate kingdom with its capital at Hsian if their demands are not granted. What amount of truth there is in this story, we cannot say. It will be remembered that before the Boxer outbreak the Empress Dowager, when she wished to depose H.M. KWANG HSU, sought Prince TUAN's assistance, bribing him with the promise of taking another Emperor from among his sons. The present story from Kansu therefore all the more readily obtains credence, but it has been current for some time past, and the only comment we can make upon it is that the "ultimatum" either gives the Empress-Dowager an unconscionably long time to consider the demands, or else the rebel leaders are unprepared to act upon it.

## THE CHINESE AND H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

## THE PETITION TO THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

We give below the full text of the petition which, as we mentioned on the 3rd inst. has been largely signed by the leading members of the Chinese community in the Colony. Hon. Dr. Ho Kai's letter to H.E.'s Private Secretary and Sir John Keane's reply are also given.

Hongkong, 30th March, 1903.

SIR.—I have the honour to transmit to you a Petition in triplicate addressed to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies by the Chinese inhabitants of this Colony.

The Petition has been signed by the leading members of every section of the Chinese Community here resident, and I am requested by them to beg His Excellency the Governor to forward the same to the Secretary of State by an early mail.

As the matter is an urgent one, I am further requested to ask His Excellency to be so good as to send a telegram to the Secretary of State acquainting him with the subject matter of the Petition and stating by what mail the same is being sent.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant,

Ho Kai.

Sir JOHN KEANE, Bart.  
Private Secretary.

To the Right Honourable Joseph Chamberlain, P.C., M.P., His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants and Firms of Hongkong on behalf of themselves and every section of the Chinese Community.

Respectfully Sheweth:—

1. That Your Petitioners are the leading Chinese Residents and Firms of and in the Colony of Hongkong and its Dependencies, who, together with the rest of the Chinese Community, constitute close upon ninety-seven per centum of the total inhabitants of the Colony and about seventeen-twentieths of the rate-paying Community.

2. That most of Your Petitioners have either been born or naturalised as British subjects in this Colony, or have resided permanently therein for a very large number of years, and all of them without exception have considerable stake and interests in the land and commerce of this Colony.

3. That since the cession of this Island to the British Crown and since the period of which Your Petitioners have any remembrance, the Government of this Colony has been conducted with ability and justice, for which Your Petitioners together with their Chinese fellow citizens are truly and profoundly grateful.

4. That during the last five years since the arrival of His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., as Governor of Hongkong, the



Government of this Colony has assumed not merely a just but a liberal, benevolent, and sympathetic character, and that at no time within the recollection and experience of the oldest of your petitioners has an administration been so universally appreciated and admired.

5. That to say that the administration of Sir Henry Blake has completely won the confidence, respect, and admiration of the entire Chinese population and has cemented their loyalty and affection to the British Crown, is but to state a well acknowledged truth, and that the present Petition is the outcome of the earnest desire on the part of every section of the Chinese Community to seek for a continuation of a strong, wise, just, and sympathetic rule at a time more or less unsettled and troublous.

6. That to enumerate the many benevolent acts and liberal measures adopted by Sir Henry Blake during his five years' administration is not the intention of your petitioners, nor is it deemed necessary to do so; but there are some administrative acts which have so deeply touched the hearts of the native population that it is impossible for them to ever forget.

7. That several public charitable institutions have in recent years been promoted and established under His Excellency's direct patronage having for their object the healing of the sick and sheltering of the incurable. The new Wing of the Tung Wa Hospital, the infectious Diseases Hospital, the Home for Lepers, and the projected Maternity Hospital are and will be perpetual monuments of the charitable phase of his benevolent Government; while his personal zeal in the cause of charity has caused the Chinese to treble their efforts in contributing to the relief of sufferers from the devastations of war, famine, typhoon, or flood.

8. That the establishment of separate schools for European children and high schools for the sons and daughters of the Chinese, together with the endowment of a College of Medicine for the Chinese and the adoption of most of the recommendations of the Educational Committee, are Governmental acts which cannot fail to promote education in the Colony, especially among the Chinese inhabitants.

9. That the passage of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance in its present form, the adoption of various effective but considerate and reasonably sanitary measures, the opening of Government Dispensaries, the institution of a Bacteriological Research Department, the employment of Chinese trained in Western medical science, the establishment of public bath houses, the conservation of open spaces, the training of nullahs, the increase of the water storage, and the better regulation of the water supply, are measures which will improve the health of the Colony, and finally eradicate therefrom all forms of epidemic and infectious disease.

10. That the almost bloodless pacification of the New Territory together with the establishment of local tribunals and the promotion of agriculture and industry there, the improvement and augmentation of the police and district watchmen forces, the stern suppression of secret societies, and the deportation of hardened criminals and dangerous characters, have tended to preserve the peace and good order of this Colony in a manner the most effective and unsurpassed.

11. That the maintenance of unbroken friendly relations with the local Government at Canton, frequently under very trying circumstances, especially during the troublous time of the taking over of the New Territory and during the Boxer rising in the North of the Chinese Empire, has inspired your petitioners with the utmost confidence in the diplomatic as well as the administrative abilities of Sir Henry Blake, and this confidence has spread a tranquil feeling over the mind of the Chinese residents notwithstanding the many recent disquieting rumours of rebellious risings in the neighbouring provinces and of possible foreign complications.

12. That the new Public Health and Buildings Ordinance reserves large discretionary powers to the Governor and several of his Executive Officers, and that the carrying out of all its most important provisions requires much experience, discretion, and consideration. In the humble opinion of Your Petitioners, this Ordinance, if enforced by a Governor who commands the confidence of the vast majority of the public, will prove a success from the first

otherwise, it will probably be attended with much difficulty and friction.

13. That provision for a largely increased supply of water to the Colony by further arrangements for its conservation and distribution, together with provision for the housing and spread of the Chinese working classes, is considered by your petitioners to be absolutely necessary for their welfare and the sanitary improvement of the whole Colony, and that your petitioners have good reason to believe that His Excellency the Governor is now devising schemes to meet immediate and future requirements in those respects.

14. That owing to the unsatisfactory condition of the local monetary currency, and the disturbed and unsettled state of Southern China, a crisis may at any moment occur in this Colony and its neighbouring provinces, which will require at this great emporium of trade a strong Government and a Governor possessed of an intimate knowledge of affairs and the complete confidence of the entire Chinese Community. Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that

His Most Gracious Majesty the King be advised to extend the term of His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, which will shortly expire, to another six years; That His Excellency may be permitted for yet another term to continue to rule and guide His Majesty's loyal Chinese subjects in this Colony at a time fraught with danger and trouble to them and their fellow-countrymen; And that the vast Chinese population of Hongkong and its Dependencies may have their lives and property, their welfare and happiness, protected and conserved by the one Governor in whom they have the utmost confidence and faith, and whose high personal qualities and great administrative abilities they so much admire and respect.

And Your Petitioners shall as in duty bound ever pray.

Dated Hongkong, 30th March, 1903.

Hongkong, Government House,  
31st March 1903.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date transmitting a Petition from the Chinese inhabitants to the Secretary of State for the Colonies praying that the terms of His Excellency's administration should be extended.

The Governor desires me to convey to the Chinese community through you his grateful acknowledgment of their expressions of confidence and goodwill in the Petition of which his first authentic information was its receipt last evening. It will be forwarded in due course to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and, while you will understand that the regulation by which the duration of a Governor's administration is determined is the result of careful consideration after long experience, His Excellency desires me to say that the Chinese community may rest assured that, whoever may be the Governor, the administration of this important Colony will, in the future as in the past, be conducted with just and sympathetic consideration for the Chinese population to whose industry, energy and business capacity the Colony is so largely indebted for its phenomenal prosperity.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. KEANE,  
Private Secretary.

The Hon. Doctor Ho Kai,  
M.L.C., C.M.G.,  
&c. &c.

The Governor-General of Formosa has notified the Osaka Shosen Kaisha of the fact that the Government of Formosa will subsidize the South China service of that steamship company to the extent of Yen 249,945 and the Formosa service to the extent of Yen 327,995 for the 36th fiscal year of Meiji, which will begin on April 1st. Mr. Pen Pao-cheng, the newly appointed Chinese Consul at Nagasaki, is going there from home in June next instead of in April as previously reported. Mr. Tsu Chung-ching, now in charge of the consulate at that port, will postpone his departure for home until the arrival of his successor.

## HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At a monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce held in the Chamber Room, on Tuesday, 24th March, 1903, at 8.30 o'clock p.m. Present:—Mr. W. Poate (Vice-Chairman), Hon. C. W. Dickson, Messrs. E. A. Hewett, C. Michels, N. A. Siebs, J. R. M. Smith, H. B. Tomkins, R. C. Wilcox, Hon. R. Chewan (ex-officio) and A. R. Lowe (Secretary).

### MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 17th ult. and also of the special meeting held on 24th ult. were read and confirmed.

### RESIGNATION OF CHAIRMAN.

The SECRETARY read a letter from Hon. C. S. Sharp, dated 9th inst., stating that he resigned his seat on the Committee on account of leaving the Colony for some time, and expressing his regret at not being able to remain in the Colony until the annual general meeting took place.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that he had pleasure in proposing that the Committee should place on record a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Sharp for the able manner in which he had carried out the duties of the chairmanship during the past year.

Mr. R. C. WILCOX seconded, and added that they were much indebted to Mr. Sharp who had put in a great deal of hard work and given the Chamber the benefit of his Shanghai experience in dealing with the Tariff question and other subjects. He was sure they would have great difficulty in finding an equally painstaking Chairman.

The vote of thanks was carried unanimously. The VICE-CHAIRMAN proposed that Mr. A. G. Wood should be asked to fill the vacancy on the Committee and Hon. C. W. Dickson seconded. This was unanimously agreed to.

### NEW MEMBERS.

The SECRETARY reported that since the last meeting The British-American Tobacco Co. and Mr. L. S. Dady Burjor had been elected to membership, subject to the usual confirmation at the annual meeting.

### LIQUOR LICENCES ON SPIRITS OF WINE.

Read joint letter dated 19th ult. from Messrs. Grossmann & Co. and Jebson & Co., informing the Chamber that the Government had compelled them to pay a licence fee of \$1,000 for selling spirits of wine although it had been shown that the spirit was used for making varnish and not for drinking purposes. They contended that the imposition would result in the trade leaving Hongkong for Canton.

In the course of the discussion which followed it was pointed out that spirits of wine was being obtained and used for making cheap alcoholic liquor and it was decided to let the matter stand over to give the applicants time to try the experiment of methylating the spirit in order to prevent its use for drinking purposes.

### PROPOSED DIRECT FOREIGN POST EXCHANGE WITH U.S.A.

Read letter from the Colonial Secretary, dated 16th ult., informing the Chamber that His Excellency the Governor after conferring with the Secretary of State for the Colonies respecting the desirability of establishing a direct exchange of parcels with the U.S.A. had recommended to the Secretary of State, as the best means of attaining the end in view, that the Foreign Offices in London should negotiate a convention with the U.S. Government.

### HONGKONG TRADE-MARK LAW.

Read correspondence between the Chairman (Hon. C. S. Sharp) and Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors, relating to the refusal of the Government to register a certain trade-mark which it was contended could be registered in England.

It was decided to leave the matter over until the next meeting.

### PREVENTION OF MALARIAL FEVER.

The rules drawn up for the preservation of health in the tropics, forwarded by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine for the use of agents of firms trading in the tropics, were laid on the table.

### ACCOUNTS.

The SECRETARY reported that the accounts as presented at the last monthly meeting had



since been audited and found correct by Mr. J. Y. V. Vernon and Hon. Gershom Stewart.

#### DELIVERY OF GOODS AT MANILA CUSTOM HOUSE

Mr. E. A. HEWETT referred to the remarks made by him on this subject at the last meeting and said that he had since heard the Customs authorities still maintained their right to deliver goods on production of the bill of lading before its endorsement by the steamer's agents. He added that endeavours were again being made through a private source to get the practice altered without resort to official representations.

#### NEW RULES.

The question of the advisability of revising the Rules and Bye-laws of the Chamber was discussed and it was eventually decided to appoint a sub-committee composed of Messrs. E. A. Hewett, H. E. Tomkins and R. C. Wilcox to report on the matter.

#### THE VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said that he was leaving the Colony shortly and this would be the last occasion on which he would have the pleasure of taking part in the proceedings and that on his departure the Chamber would be without either a Chairman or Vice Chairman. He mentioned this in order that they might decide then whether to elect a new Chairman or wait until the next committee meeting.

It was decided to leave the election of a new Chairman to a future meeting.

Hon. R. SHEWAN proposed that Mr. E. A. Hewett be appointed Vice-Chairman on Mr. Poate's departure. Hon. C. W. DICKSON seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. E. A. Hewett agreed to accept the Vice-Chairmanship and took the opportunity to propose a very cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Poate for his services as Vice-Chairman during the past year, which was carried with acclamation.

### THE ADMIRALTY DOCK QUESTION.

#### THE PETITION TO MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Following is the text of the petition to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—

The humble petition of the undersigned residents in the Colony of Hongkong on behalf of the community

Respectfully sheweth that your petitioners desire to bring to your notice the following facts concerning a matter of great moment to the Colony and one which has a very direct bearing on its future advancement and prosperity.

2. We refer to the question of the Admiralty Dock now under construction and the contemplated extension of the Naval Yard.

3. The question of the present position of the Dock is one of such vital importance to the future development of our Colony that we consider we are justified in approaching you on the subject in the hope that a representation of our views may result in the whole question being reconsidered by the various advisers of His Majesty who are concerned in the matter.

4. We understand that certain unforeseen engineering difficulties have arisen and that an opportunity may have thus presented itself by which it is possible that if representations be made by the residents of Hongkong, the site of the Dock may be changed without detriment to the efficient docking and repairing of H.M. ships of war.

5. In support of our contention that much harm must eventually result to the Colony by the proposed Naval Establishment occupying what should, looking to the future, be part of our most important business centre, we beg to submit the following facts.

6. A glance at the attached map of Hongkong will show that the Naval Dock Yard is in the centre of the sea front of the City of Victoria, and we would point out that the general tendency is for all leading places of business to congregate in the immediate vicinity of the proposed Dock.

7. The Praya reclamation scheme, so far as it has been carried out, has provided a much needed stretch of level ground on which large offices have been erected to meet the growing trade requirements of the Colony, and, by increasing the number of main roads running from east to west, has much relieved the congested traffic

which formerly had to be concentrated in the Queen's Road and on the old Praya.

8. The present position of the Naval Dock Yard unfortunately blocks the extension eastward of the great improvement, cuts the Praya in two, congests the traffic, and confines it to a single narrow road. Unless this obstruction is removed, the natural expansion of our city will be irretrievably ruined, much to the disadvantage of the Colony at large, as, owing to will be conformation of the ground, it is the only possible direction in which expansion can take place.

9. We need hardly emphasize the further disadvantage which will be experienced through smoke and noise seriously affecting the comfort of those whose offices or residences are situated in the vicinity of the Dock. Moreover, as the work would be going on frequently by night as well as by day these disadvantages, which are particularly felt in a tropical climate, would be specially objectionable to a large section of the community. In this connection we must also consider the serious depreciation in the value of property which will unquestionably result from the above causes. This will be far reaching, as it will affect all residential property from the Tram Line eastward as far as the Naval Hospital, and as high up as the Peak.

The noise which will arise from the work at the Dock has been foreshadowed during the present construction and in one case led to a summons for a nuisance being taken out at the Magistracy against the contractors.

10. Nor are the above the sole arguments for the removal of the Dock Yard which we can adduce.

11. We understand that even though land now in the possession of the War Department as well as other land were included in the Naval Yard site, the level ground at the disposal of the Naval Authorities would be barely sufficient to meet the present requirements of His Majesty's Navy in the Far East. We believe that the trend of events is such as to point in the future to a still greater expansion of the British Naval Forces in this part of the globe, and under these circumstances we believe we are justified in raising the point that in the near future the new Dock Yard will be found inadequate for the purposes of H. M. Navy.

12. There are, moreover, we believe, other sites which might equally well be made use of for the purpose of a Naval Establishment, but on this point we refrain from saying more, as we trust the whole question may shortly form the subject of an enquiry on the part of the respective authorities concerned.

13. The question of the removal of the Naval Yard from its present site is one of such great importance to the Colony as to justify, in our opinion, its incurring the necessary expenditure to recoup the Admiralty for the money already spent upon the new works.

14. In conclusion we would therefore strongly urge that in the interests of the Colony a Royal Commission be appointed on which all the interests concerned be represented to report not only on matters now under consideration by the various Government Departments but also on the advisability of removing the Dock to another site.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

### THE CURRENCY IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The Manila Cablenews of the 3rd inst. says:—

An executive order will be issued this morning fixing the rate of exchange between gold and silver at 2.55. There has been a gradual rise in the price of silver since the action of Congress on the Philippine currency has been an established fact. It is explained by some as a matter of speculation on the part of those dealing in money. It is said that many people are accumulating large stores of the Mexican pesos hoping that when the new Philippine peso is introduced, they will be able to buy the new peso from the people in the provinces at an even exchange and then exchange the new pesos thus acquired for gold at two for one. However this may be, it is true that there has been a larger demand than usual for the Mexican peso in the local market and the price has steadily gone up.

### THE GAGE STREET MURDER.

#### ARREST OF AN ALLEGED PARTICIPANT.

Memory has almost forgotten the cold-blooded murder that took place at 52, Gage Street, on 11th January, 1901, when Yeung Ku Wan, a Chinese schoolmaster, was shot to death in his class-room by one who was alleged to have been an emissary in the pay of a high Cantonese official—killed before the eyes of his young pupils for nothing else than that he was a Reformer. The class was assembling for instruction in English, and the master, book in hand, was sitting at his desk waiting for the scholars to take their seats. As they came into the room there crept in along with them the assassin who, to earn the blood-money that had been placed on the doomed man's head, had resolved to take his life. Revolver in hand, he walked up to the unsuspecting schoolmaster and fired at him four times at point-blank range. Every one of the shots took effect, one entering the head and the others penetrating the left shoulder, chest, and abdomen. Then the murderer turned and fled, and from that day till now nothing, so far as the general public are concerned, has been seen or heard of him. It was suspected at the time that more than one man were implicated, and this suspicion has since been verified. Three men were concerned in the atrocity, and of these two are dead. The third man, if the surmises of the police are correct and the case against him can be proved, is in the hands of the authorities, and on Wednesday next, the 15th inst., at ten o'clock, he will be brought up on remand before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Senior Police Magistrate, and charged with being a party to the murder which has been described.

### TRAGEDY IN THE HARBOUR.

A sad tragedy occurred on board the s.s. *Sikh* during the night on the 6th inst., the master, Mr. F. J. Pentreath, being found dead in his cabin yesterday morning, a revolver by his side and a ragged bullet wound in his forehead. The first intimation of the deplorable affair came from the steward who entered Captain Pentreath's cabin with his master's morning cup of coffee, and his excited story quickly brought the officers of the ship on the scene. The body was found huddled up on the floor of the cabin, and a glance showed at once that the unfortunate skipper was beyond human aid. The doctor on the P. & O. steamer *Shanghai*, which was lying close to the *Sikh*—both vessels were moored to the wharves of the Kowloon Godown Company—was summoned, and on his arrival he pronounced life to be extinct. No weapon of any sort was then seen in the cabin, and the appearance of the wound in the head raised doubt as to what had really caused it. Nothing in the cabin was disturbed, however, everything being left untouched pending the arrival of the police from Tsimshatsui Police Station, where information of the occurrence had been sent. When Inspector Williamson appeared a closer examination of the cabin was made, and the revolver was found; one chamber had been discharged. The body was dressed in pyjamas, so that the deceased must either have been in bed and got up or been preparing to retire. Those who know Captain Pentreath here refuse to entertain the idea that he committed suicide, and prefer to believe that he met his death by an accident probably when he was cleaning his revolver. He was altogether a different kind of man, they say—always cheery and seeming never to have anything to trouble him. The *Sikh*, a new vessel on which he was making his first voyage as master, arrived in port on Monday, and was visited by one or two friends of Captain Pentreath who wished to congratulate him on his advancement, which was entirely unexpected and caused through the sudden illness of the former master just before the steamer left the old country. They found him in his usual good spirits and as unlike a man who had trouble on his mind or who contemplated self-destruction as could be imagined. The deceased, who was a young man of about thirty, and unmarried, was well and favourably known on the China coast, and was formerly chief officer of the *Afridi*, another of the line of vessels of which the *Sikh* is one. The funeral took place on the 8th inst.



THE NEW PACIFIC MAIL  
LINER.

S.S. "SIBERIA" IN HONGKONG.

The new Pacific Mail Steamship Co.'s s.s. *Siberia*, sister ship of the *Korea*, arrived on the 7th inst. at daylight from San Francisco with mails and general cargo. She left Frisco on 11th March and Shanghai on the 4th April, thus taking 27 days for the whole voyage. Captain Tremaine Smith, her commander, is to be congratulated on the success attending her maiden journey over the Pacific. But the *Siberia* has already proved herself a fine sea-going vessel. She was built on the Atlantic and sailed round the Horn to San Francisco where she arrived on 3rd February. In describing that voyage Captain Tremaine Smith said: "She's steady as a rock and handles like a yacht." Officers and crew endorse the skipper's opinion. "We met a heavy north-easter coming up the coast," said Captain Porter, who came around in the *Siberia* as executive officer. "The wind, which blew with terrific force, was accompanied by big seas. The force of the wind reduced our speed from sixteen to twelve knots, but the waves wasted their energy when they tried to rock this cradle."

The *Siberia* is slightly larger than her sister ship the *Korea*, her tonnage being three tons greater, 11,184 in all. In general equipment and accommodation the boats are duplicates. In the matter of speed, however, the *Siberia* is about two knots faster than the *Korea* and certain mistakes in arrangement discovered when the *Korea* was put to the test of actual service have in the *Siberia* been corrected. From New York to Frisco the steamer used only six of her nine boilers. She came through the Straits of Magellan in twenty-two hours, said to be the record time.

As she lay in the Harbour yesterday the levitan came in for a large share of attention from the shipping community; while her huge bulk also attracted many eyes from the shore.

## SALVING A STRANDED STEAMER.

THE "BINH THUAN" AT SAIGON.

The French steamer *Binh Thuan*, which went ashore nine miles north of Cape Verella, on the French Annam coast 230 miles from Saigon in one direction and 60 miles from Kin Hon in another, has been successfully salvaged, and is now at Saigon undergoing repairs. Simple as it may appear on paper, the task of rescuing the ship from her predicament was not so easy of accomplishment, and unfortunately its performance was attended by the total wrecking of the steamer *Helene* and the stranding of the Kowloon Dock Company's tug *Fame*. When the *Binh Thuan* went ashore the *Helene* was sent from Saigon to her assistance, but during the operation of rendering it the *Helene's* propeller became fouled by a rope, and she was driven badly on to the sands almost alongside the vessel she had come to save. She has been brought for £75 by Mr. J. W. Jameson, salvage expert, who accompanied the party which left here on the *Fame*; he purposes having her broken up and sold. The accident to the *Fame* came about in a similar manner to that which befel the ill-starred *Helene*. While she was making preparations for the recovery of the *Binh Thuan's* anchors, a rope fouled her port propeller, and as the starboard propeller could not keep the tug's head to sea she was carried inshore by the heavy ground swell and piled up on the sands. The *Binh Thuan* was by this time afloat, and she made unsuccessful attempts to refloat the *Fame* which, however, was seen by those on the steamer to be in no danger. She was lying easily on the sands, taking in no water, and in a position that showed she would float again on the first high spring tide, which was due in a few days. This expectation was fully realised, and the *Fame*, we understand, is now on the way up to Hongkong. The *Binh Thuan* was floated on 21st March and left for Saigon on 29th March, arriving at her destination at six o'clock on the morning of the 1st inst. Her cargo was taken ashore at the place where she stranded, and is perfectly safe, whilst the \$200,000 she was carrying for the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has been sent to Haiphong.

## SERIOUS STREET FIGHT.

CHINAMAN BADLY INJURED.

A street fight involving injuries of a serious nature to one of the combatants occurred in Wan-hai on Tuesday afternoon. At Jardine's Bazaar, so the story told by the police runs, the hammer of a pile-driver became detached and dropped into the water. This put a sudden stop to the operations in progress, and the annoyance of the workmen at the accident did not find a solatium in the jeers of a number of coolies and boatmen who gathered round. The inevitable outcome was of course a row, and both parties charged each other with a heartiness that would have been commendable had it been displayed in a peaceful and legitimate cause. During the *mélée* one member of the party opposed to the workmen was knocked down and kicked into insensibility. Others of the crowd detached themselves and ran to No. 7 Police Station with the information that a man had been killed. Two European constables went to the scene, which had now assumed an appearance of comparative tranquility, and by the direction of eye-witnesses arrested three men who were alleged to have committed the assault upon the unfortunate coolie, who was carried to the police station. Here he was found to be in a state of collapse, and was at once conveyed to the Government Civil Hospital, where, though still alive, he lies in a bad way. It is expected that he will pull through, an operation having relieved the rupture which he sustained to his spleen.

## THE VICTIM OF THIEVES.

Once again Mr. H. Humphreys has been made the victim of the designs of thieves. On Tuesday night, about half-past seven o'clock, Mrs. Humphreys, who was occupying a small room commanding the hall, heard the door of the house opened. She paid no particular attention to the incident, being under the impression that a friend was paying a visit and had simply walked in. Hearing no sound, however, to denote the presence of anyone, she called out to ascertain who was there, and followed up the query by walking into the hall. There she saw a Chinaman, whom she asked in surprise to state his business. He appeared to have no particular business on hand—that is, no business of the ordinary, every-day type of honest people—and after some humming and having told Mrs. Humphreys, who understands the Chinese language, that he only wanted a chair. Smiting the action to the word, he squatted down in one, and viewed the lady of the house with the calm indifference of a man who was doing nothing at all unusual. After a moment he rose and attempted to walk out of the house by the back door, which is directly opposite the front one, but in this he was foiled by the presence of two servants who were viewing the strange scene curiously. Mrs. Humphreys then called out to her husband, who was upstairs, and when Mr. Humphreys came down he asked the Chinaman, who again occupied the chair, who he was and what he wanted. The reply was the same as that given to Mrs. Humphreys—he did not want anything in particular, only a chair to rest himself in. The upshot of the affair was that Mr. Humphreys collared the man and set for the police, who took him to the lock-up. Yesterday morning, before Mr. J. H. Kemp, Acting Magistrate, he was charged with entering the house for a felonious purpose, and remanded till to-day.

It appears that the Japanese teachers in the Chinese University at Peking are drawing their fixed salaries on a gold basis. The monthly salary was 600 dollars, and when the time for payment came the teachers claimed that the salary was fixed in Japanese dollars. A Peking correspondent in the *Shanghai Mercury* reckons this as \$1,100 a month, but we cannot make it more than about \$760. However there is said to be on the part of the Chinese much dissatisfaction and criticism from all sides and an incipient internal rebellion. The teachers have a four years' agreement.

## CONCERTS.

PROF. KNOSP'S PIANOFORTE  
RECITAL.

It is sincerely to be regretted that so limited an audience assembled in the Theatre Royal on Tuesday evening to welcome the talented piano maestro, Prof. H. Knosp, who is touring the Far East, and has lately arrived from Indo-China. It was recently commented in a London journal that considerable advance has been made by all classes of the community in the appreciation of genius since the day when M. Paderewski played to empty benches; but that advance has evidently not been participated in by Hongkong, looking to the auditorium at Tuesday's concert. Though only rumours of Prof. Knosp's wonderful powers have reached the Colony, these in combination with the local talent advertised should have ensured at least a good attendance. The expectations of the few music-lovers present were more than realised, as the veteran pianist played throughout in his very best style. The personal appearance even of Prof. Knosp causes one to anticipate something above the average, and he presents a striking and dignified figure on the platform with his long, flowing hair of silver grey. Few indeed, even among the greatest artists, can go from beginning to end of a long programme without falling, in some work or in some movement below their best standard. It has been said that even Rubenstein nearly always failed in some one movement or other in a recital programme; indeed, to retain a perfect control of technique and an untired freshness of interpretation is given to very few. Mr. Knosp showed on Tuesday that he has this rare gift, in addition to his other talents. Beethoven's "Mondschein Sonata" in particular being played with an amount of what is commonly called "inspiration"; and an encore piece had to be given. The whole recital will long be remembered by the privileged ones present.

Prof. Knosp was excellently supported. Mrs. Jewell owns a soprano voice of very pleasant quality; she is also a stylish singer and one whom it is a pleasure to hear. The accompaniments of Mrs. Coggin were admirable and in perfect accord with the soloists. Mr. Graca's violin pieces were played with consummate technical skill. It only remains to be stated that the piano, a Steinway, could hardly have been improved on.

## MISSION TO SEAMEN.

An enjoyable concert arranged by Miss Colcutt, assistant teacher at the Kowloon British School, was given in the Seamen's Institute, Elgin Road, Kowloon, on Tuesday evening, and was well attended. The various items of a lengthy programme were becomingly rendered, and at the close a vote of thanks was accorded to Miss Colcutt and those associated with her in the entertainment. The programme was as follows:—

|                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Pianoforte Solo                    | Miss Stewart       |
| Song "Barney, Take me Home Again," | Miss Wilson        |
| Banjo Solo                         | Mr. Shoobred       |
| Song "Mona,"                       | Miss Logan         |
| Song "The Dead Dog,"               | Miss Gissy Low     |
| Recitation "The Dirty Boy,"        | Miss Dolly Packham |
| Song "The Promise of Life,"        | Mr. Hayward        |
| Song "Isle of Beauty,"             | Miss Grace Wilson  |
| Club Drill                         | Miss Vanstone      |
| Song "When the Roses Bloom Again," | Mr. J. Logan       |
| Song "Little Cherry Blossom,"      | Miss Dolly Packham |
| Piano Duet                         | Misses Wilson      |
| Song "The Gift,"                   | Miss Logan         |
| Song and Banjo Solo                | Mr. Shoobred       |
| Song "In the Gloom,"               | Miss Colcutt       |
| Song "When the Heart is Young,"    | Miss Wilson        |

In connection with the Institute, it was intimated that there would be a picnic to Stanley on Easter Monday, particulars concerning which may be had at the Institute. On Tuesday evening next another concert will be given, on this occasion by Mrs. Low, who may safely be trusted to arrange an attractive programme.

In connection with the recent visits to Japan of Princes Cyril and Boris of Russia, the Tsar has conferred decorations on a number of officials in Kanagawaken.



## THE LILLIPUTIANS AT THE THEATRE.

### "DOROTHY."

A full house assembled last night to welcome the Lilliputians back to the Theatre Royal after their season in Manila, and to witness the presentation of *Dorothy*—a piece in which the clever little Therapians are seen to decided advantage. *Dorothy* is a three-act comedy, and in the synopsis we are told that Squire Bantam's daughter, Dorothy, and her cousin, Lydia Hawthorne, attend the hop-pickers' festival disguised as peasants. Whilst there they encounter Geoffrey Wilder and Harry Sherwood, and as it is a case of love at first sight with Geoffrey and Dorothy as well as with Lydia and Harry, they agree to meet next day. Geoffrey, having come to the end of his tether financially, is being pursued by one Lurcher, who buttonholes Geoffrey and tells him that unless his just debts are settled within ten minutes Geoffrey must go to the debtors' prison in London. He then leaves to serve a writ of distraint on an old woman's cow. Now, Geoffrey has applied to his uncle Squire Bantam, for assistance, but is informed that unless he marries the Squire's daughter, whom Geoffrey has never seen, he will give no assistance. This Geoffrey refuses to do. Lurcher is seized by the villagers, and rescued by Geoffrey, who compels him to be an accomplice to obtain money from the Squire. In the second act a country dance is in full swing at the Squire's house, when Lurcher, disguised as secretary to his Grace the Duke of Berkshire, enters and asks shelter for his master, whose carriage has just met with an accident. Accordingly, Geoffrey, disguised as the Duke, is enabled to again meet Dorothy and is once more enamoured, though not recognising her as the peasant-girl of the morning. After the guests disappear, the plot commences to unweave itself. Sherwood making a great commotion, the noise brings on the scene the Squire, who is also seized, and the uproar awakens the entire household. Lurcher then informs those present that his Grace has been robbed of eighty pounds sterling. The Squire to prevent a scandal immediately refunds the amount to the pseudo Duke, and thus Geoffrey pays his debtors. In the third act Lurcher turns traitor and informs the Squire of the deception. The Squire threatens to "send the fellow over the ropes," but on learning that "the fellow" is his nephew he pardons him only on the condition that Geoffrey agrees to marry his daughter. Geoffrey replies that it is impossible, as he is engaged to a peasant girl and will be true to her. The Squire agrees, as the peasant girl is really his disguised daughter, and so all ends well.

Such is the simple story of *Dorothy*. Of course, it is not one that carries originality with it. The high-souled young hero who is not above getting into debt and applying to other people to help him out, but who recoils, with righteous indignation and reproach from marriage with a young lady whom he has never seen and whom he can never, never love because of the other maiden in the background, is a familiar figure both in drama and novel, and his evil genius, the man with a bunch of promissory notes which, Damocles-like, he waves menacingly over the head of the unlucky youth, has also the claim of acquaintance to advance. Nevertheless, *Dorothy* is not the kind of play one cannot enjoy, and that thoroughly, for even though its author has not broken new ground there is a vivacity in the contribution of his to the literature of the stage that commends it at once to the public. The Lilliputians made an excellent appearance in it, and characterised their treatment of the piece by their usual thoroughness. Master Jack Pollard came in for prominent attention, and acted cleverly his part of Squire Bantam. As Dorothy Bantam, Miss Alice Pollard made an undoubted hit, and her sister, Miss Connie Pollard, was equally good in the rôle of Phyllis Tupper. Miss Alice Macnamara drew a clever sketch of Lydia Hawthorne, whilst Miss Ivy Trott and Miss Irene Goulding were beyond reproach in the characters, respectively, of Harry Sherwood and Geoff Wilder. The combination of parts and players all through was a felicitous one, and the harmonious scenic effects contributed

to a successful tout ensemble. The full cast was as follows:—

|                 |                         |                       |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Dorothy Bantam  | "Squire's daughter,"    | Miss Alice Pollard    |
| Lydia Hawthorne | "Dorothy's cousin,"     | Miss Alice Macnamara  |
| Phyllis Tupper  | "Innkeeper's daughter," | Miss Connie Pollard   |
| Mrs. Privett    | "Squire's sister,"      | Miss Nellie Macnamara |
| Lady Betty      | "Squire's guest,"       | Miss Irene Finlay     |
| Geoff Wilder    | "Squire's nephew,"      | Miss Irene Goulding   |
| Harry Sherwood  | "Geoffrey's friend,"    | Miss Ivy Trott        |
| Squire's Bantam | "Of Chantider Hall,"    | Mr. Jack Pollard      |
| John Tupper     | "Innkeeper,"            | Mr. Oscar Heintz      |
| Lurcher         | "Sheriff,"              | Miss Daphne Trott     |
| Tomstrutt       |                         | Mr. Fred. Stewart     |

## FIRES.

An alarming fire broke out on the night of 3rd inst. in Queen's Road West. The first sign of the conflagration was noticed on the ground floor of 255, Queen's Road West. Before the flames had got a very serious hold the Fire Brigade, under Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse and Mr. H. G. Baker were on the spot, but they found themselves in the unfortunate position of having to stand by for about half an hour before the water was turned on. Meanwhile the conflagration spread east and west to the houses on either side—Nos. 267, 269, 281, and 283. When the mains at last gave up their supply, there was a plentiful output of water thrown upon the burning buildings and the Brigade were enabled to keep the conflagration from spreading to the adjoining dwellings. But despite the efforts of the Brigade the house in which the fire originated and the four houses on each side of it were burned to the ground and the damage is estimated at something like \$20,000.

It may be mentioned that the fire bell rang at 2.55 a.m. The name of the proprietor of the ground floor where the fire started is Chun Haug. Last May a fire occurred in the same place. The ground floor on which the present fire occurred was used as a medicine shop and kerosene store; the name of the proprietor is Wu Fai Ping and his premises were insured with the Hip On Insurance Company for \$3,000.

It is supposed that the fire originated at the back of the shop. Owing to the scarcity of water the flames spread with alarming velocity and while the Fire Brigade were looking and waiting for water the two houses on both sides of the tenement in which the flames started became ignited.

When once the Brigade got a supply of water they were not long in subduing the fire, which never spread beyond the bounds that it had been confined to while the Brigade stood by. The people resident above the flat where the fire started had narrow escapes, as they knew nothing of their danger until the sound of police whistles roused them from their slumbers; as it was they escaped from the burning building with the scantiest of clothing on. The flat above the ground floor where the fire originated was used as a family dwelling house and was uninsured. The top story was used as a seamen's boarding house by Pun Pui Shi and was insured for \$2,500. One of the houses destroyed was a medicine shop uninsured, the proprietor of which estimates the damage at \$5,000. When the police (Chinese) were attracted to the spot by the alarm of fire, two lukongs arrested two of the men from the kerosene shop leaving the premises. They were subsequently, however, released, no evidence of arson being forthcoming against them.

Fire broke out about half-past eleven o'clock on Sunday night on the ground floor of a three-story house at 19, Circular Pathway. The flames spread very quickly, and engulfed the two upper floors, both of which, with the ground floor, were completely destroyed. The first floor, a family house, was uninsured, but the second, which was also used as a family house, was insured for \$1,500 in the Transatlantic Company, and the ground floor in the Hung On Insurance Company for \$2,500. The cause of the fire is unknown.

The charred remains of a Chinese youth of 18 have been taken from the ruins of the house which was gutted by fire in Circular Pathway on the 5th inst. The lad, who had been reported missing, was employed as a bar-boy in the Hongkong Hotel.

## THE HONGKONG-MANILA SMUGGLING CASE.

The trial of Captain Harry B. Chamberlain of the U.S. transport *Seward*, charged with smuggling from Hongkong, opened in Manila on the 2nd inst.

The charges allege that Captain Harry B. Chamberlain, a Quartermaster-Captain and in charge of the transport *Seward*, fraudulently and knowingly imported and brought in to the Philippine Islands and assisted in doing so, merchandise contrary to law and in violation of Section 34 of Act No. 353 of the United States Philippine Commission. It is charged that Captain Chamberlain had built a box on the transport in order to conceal the merchandise, which it is alleged he attempted to smuggle into the Philippines.

The first witness for the Government was W. H. Hawes, who at the time of the trip of the *Seward* from Hongkong to Manila was the first officer, but is now Captain.

Captain Hawes testified that on or about the 6th of February, while the *Seward* was still in Hongkong, Captain Chamberlain instructed him to have a box constructed in the boiler room between the bulk heads. That he in turn transmitted the order to the ship's carpenter, and the box was placed in over the boilers and near the smokestack. That the box was completed before the ship arrived in Manila, but that the box was not finished when the *Seward* left the port of Hongkong. The box was fixed so that it had to be unscrewed and the lid taken off. The box was about twenty feet long, about two feet wide and about ten inches deep. The captain said that the box was not to be opened without his orders and that on the night before the ship arrived in Manila Captain Chamberlain ordered the lid of the box to be taken off. The ship's carpenter was called to get to the box and to perform the work necessary. As the box was in an out-of-the-way place and the only way to get at it was through a window the ship's carpenter climbed through this window and unscrewed the lid. When the lid was unscrewed Captain Chamberlain gave to him (Capt. Hawes) about nine or ten packages which were passed to the carpenter, who placed them in the box. After all the packages had been placed in the box Captain Chamberlain gave orders that the lid was to be screwed down again and not to be opened until he gave the order. Captain Hawes was asked what the packages contained and said that he did not know, as he had never seen them from the time they had been put in the box. Captain Hawes testified further that the temperature was from 120 to 130 degrees.

The packages were seized by the Custom House officials, who became cognisant of the peculiar box, and they are now in the hands of the Collector of Customs. The contents of the packages were composed of silver ware, linen, silk embroidery, and fancy work. The packages in a great many instances bore the names of the persons for whom they were intended.

Further evidence was adjourned.

## CHARGES AGAINST OFFICIALS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The first of the cases against William A. Wilson, a public official in the Philippines, who was charged with the misappropriation of public funds, has been concluded. The defendant was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment in Bilbid. The Court found that while acting as disbursing officer of the Bureau of Coast Guard and Transportation, he misappropriated a sum of 19,000 pesos. Notice of appeal was given.

A few days ago Don Felipe Calderon, president of the Filipino Bar Association of Manila, was arrested on the charge of the falsification of an official document. Calderon was fined recently in the Court of First Instance for contempt and severely reprimanded by the presiding judge for conduct unbecoming a gentleman and disgraceful to an attorney. The conduct which led to the fine and the reprimand was in relation to the Tan Chucoc case. The present charges have grown out of the same case.

Calderon's bond was fixed at \$5,000 gold.



## PAKHOI.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

31st March, 1903.

Since writing you last, nothing has transpired here of any moment to write about, but the following, might probably interest your readers.

## ARRIVAL OF A MAN OF WAR.

The German gunboat *Jaguar* arrived on the 15th instant and left again on the 17th instant for a cruise.

## INTERESTING TRIAL OF A MURDERER.

A native, surnamed Lan, was accused of having committed plunder and several murders at his native village called Sai Cheong, a place only a few hours sailing from this port. The Authorities were looking for him for some time, but without success. The murderer, finding himself hotly pursued, joined the German Mission here, probably to evade justice. A short time ago, however, while he was taking a stroll, he fell into the hands of the authorities and a day was set down for the prisoner to take his trial. At the trial, which took place on the 18th inst., there were present, besides the local magistrate and other Chinese officials, a few members of the German Mission, (who were trying to defend the prisoner) and Dr. A. Mudra (the consul for Germany here), who went probably to watch the case. A large number of native spectators, including the Chinese writer of the British Consulate, were also present to witness the novel proceedings of the Court, for they learned that the missionaries were going to obtain the release of the culprit. Amongst the witnesses for the prosecution (some twenty of them) were a few elders of the same village as the prisoner, and where he committed the crimes he was accused of. Nearly all of the witnesses declared that the prisoner was an evil character, a murderer, and a terror of the village. An old man stated that the prisoner had murdered his second son, one witness said that the prisoner had also killed his own (prisoner's) uncle, and so forth. The missionaries, after hearing the evidence for the prosecution, asked if any of the witnesses present could testify to having seen with their own eyes the crime or crimes, of which the prisoner stood accused, committed; but none dared to come forward. After a good deal of animated discussion between the authorities and the missionaries, the magistrate declared that according to the Chinese law, when so many people of the same village as the prisoner, including some of his own relatives and elders of the place, come to accuse him of a vile crime, he must be visited with the extreme penalty of the law. The missionaries argued that as there was not a single eye-witness to prove the crime, the prisoner must be released or at least his life must be spared. The villagers protested that if the prisoner were going to obtain his release, they would all prefer to be killed first, as they feared the prisoner would play havoc with them as soon as he finds himself at large again. The magistrate, after consulting with the other officials present, stated that he must send the prisoner to Lim-chow to be dealt with by the Prefect and the sub-Prefect, as he was not going to take upon himself the responsibility of releasing the prisoner nor to reduce the punishment of death which the prisoner deserved, under the circumstances, having before him such a long chain of evidence for the prosecution.

The prisoner was sent to Lim-chow the following morning.

At the trial in Limchow, the prisoner was sentenced to be imprisoned in the Chinese gaol in Limchow for the term of five years, after which period he would be handed over to the German missionaries to be kept as a prisoner in the Mission house for another term of two years.

The missionaries have succeeded at last in their endeavour to save the man's life from the executioner's knife, but what about the misery of a five years' confinement in a Chinese gaol? I doubt very much that the man could survive the first term of imprisonment; to my mind, death would be a lighter punishment.

## A NEW TAX.

The new market tax on pork came into force on the 25th instant.

The dealers in pork resisted and the pork stalls in the markets were all empty on the

morning of the 25th. The native inhabitants, especially the Cantonese, who subsist mostly on pork, were deprived of the meat. How long the dealers are going to resist the tax remains to be seen.

On the evening of the 28th, the pork dealers, formed into a body, proceeded to the office of the farmer, and as they began to demolish the front door, a crowd was soon collected. The farmer, mistaking the crowd of on-lookers for rioters, took fright and applied to the authorities for protection, and when the soldiers arrived the crowd dispersed, but not before the sign board and lantern outside the door were smashed. One man was arrested for having been caught in the act of demolishing the front door of the farmer's office.

On the morning of the 29th, a few soldiers went out in search of the ringleaders of the disturbance, and needless to state, they had absconded, but in the house of one of them they found a lad, whom the soldiers attempted to arrest. The lad took to his heels and escaped through the back door and took refuge in the French Mission House, followed by the soldiers, with rifles in hand. The priest, on hearing the rush, came out and finding the soldiers trespassing his ground, he remonstrated with them and the soldiers ran away at once. I understand that the priest went immediately to lay a complaint with the local magistrate against the soldiers for trespass, and the soldiers were punished for their indiscretion.

## ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH GUNBOATS.

The French gunboats *Surprise* and *Avalanche*, arrived from Kwangchow Wan on the evening of the 27th instant and left the following morning for Haiphong.

## SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 7th April.

## CHANGES.

Mr. Smollett Campbell, Commissioner of Customs, has been transferred to Chefoo, for which port he has already left. It is said that Mr. F. A. Morgan, who has already been here as Commissioner, is to succeed to this post. Mr. P. von Ranterfeld is in the meantime in charge of Customs affairs. Mr. Alex. Cumming, Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's local agent, has departed for Tientsin, to which port he has been appointed. He has been succeeded by Mr. G. M. Young of Hongkong.

## EMIGRATION TO SAMOA.

By the s.s. *Decima* there were shipped to Apia, in the island of Samoa, about 300 Chinese coolies, principally agriculturists and labourers. This is an enterprise of the German Government to cultivate the fertile lands of Samoa, and I am told that further batches will, in course of time, be sent from here to that island. The first lot left here under charge of Mr. Wandres, representing the German Government.

## RUMOURED UNREST IN KANSU.

The *N.-C. Daily News* has the following:—

A correspondent writes from Fancheng on the Han river, in Hupeh, that a large number of Hunanese soldiers, who had come up from Wuchang in boats, arrived at Fancheng on the 12th ultimo, bound for Hsian. It is remarked as being very unusual that troops from Hunan should be sent to Shensi in time of peace; and our correspondent says that this unusual incident tends to strengthen the rumour prevalent in Northern Hupeh that Prince Tuan and Tung Fu-hsiang have sent an ultimatum to the Empress Dowager, to the effect that she must depose H.M. Kwang Hsu and put the ex-Heir Apparent Pu Chun, who is now with his father Prince Tuan at Ninghsia in Kansu, on the throne, or they will take the two provinces Shensi and Kansu and make them a separate kingdom with its capital at Hsian.

This same story was told some months ago and has been repeated from time to time from various quarters, always in almost exactly the same terms. Perhaps there is enough truth in it to account for the depression from which the Empress Dowager is said to be suffering.

## SUPREME COURT.

Saturday, 4th April.

## IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

## SKOTT &amp; CO. v. WONG TAT HING.

Messrs. H. Skott and Co. sued Wong Tat Hing, alias Wong Tat, and yesterday was set aside for the examination of a garnishee—the I On Fire and Marine Insurance Co., Ltd. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., appeared for the plaintiffs, instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (of Messrs. Dennys & Bowley). Mr. J. Hastings (of Messrs. Deacon & Hastings) watched the case on behalf of garnishees. The action arose from the attachment of certain shares belonging to the defendant, on which the I On claimed a lien.

The assistant secretary of the I On stated in examination that the Company had advanced a sum of \$17,000 to the Sing Kee firm, and of this amount \$14,000 remained unpaid. For this Wong Tat Hing was the guarantor. In the course of his statement, witness said the Company was in the habit of advancing money at the request of the managing director and that no record of such advances was put in the company's minute book. The managing director in this case was Wong Tak Hing, who was also interested in the Sing Kee firm.

The comrade of the plaintiff firm testified to Wong Tat Hing being the managing partner of the Sing Kee firm, and that that firm did a large business in Japanese goods. The Sing Kee firm had since closed its doors and Mr. Wong Tat Hing had vanished.

The Court ordered—The garnishee disputing the liability of the property on attachment, it is directed that the issue be tried to settle the dispute. Issues to be framed by the parties and to be settled by the Court in the event of dispute. Costs of the day's proceedings to abide the decision of the issue and be costs therein.

Tuesday, 7th April.

## IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND COMMANDER BASIL TAYLOR (ASSESSOR).

## SEQUEL TO A COLLISION.

There was called a cross-action arising out of a collision which occurred on 22nd November about half-past three in the morning in the China Sea about 100 miles N. of Hainan Island, between the French s.s. *Eclair* and the Portuguese s.s. *Hoi-kiang*, while the *Eclair* was going to Kwanchauwan and the *Hoi-kiang* coming up to Hongkong, as a consequence of which the latter vessel sank in deep water and the former was seriously damaged.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. F. Paget Hett of Messrs. Monney & Brutton, solicitors), appeared for the *Eclair* and Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. G. C. C. Master of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors), was for the *Hoi-kiang*.

Mr. Sharp, in opening the case, said it was one of exceptional simplicity. The whole case was the course. The *Eclair* in her answer attributed the fault of the collision to the *Hoi-kiang*, on which, it was alleged, no proper look-out was kept; the *Hoi-kiang* improperly starboarded her helm, tried to pass on the wrong side of the *Eclair*, was navigated in a generally reckless and unseamanlike manner, and she violated Articles 18 and 20 of the Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea. The *Hoi-kiang* stated that insufficient look-out was kept on board the *Eclair*, that the *Eclair* improperly altered her course to starboard, endeavoured to cross the *Hoi-kiang's* bows, and did not stop and reverse her engines. The *Eclair*, Mr. Sharp went on to say, carried a crew of 34 all told. She was 110 tons burden, 120 feet long and the height of her upper deck was about 12 or 13 feet above the level of the water. She was on the run from Hongkong to Kwanchauwan, carrying mails for the French Government. The *Hoi-kiang* was a smaller



boat with a free-board of 4ft. 6in. Shortly before the collision the lights of the *Hoi-kiang* were made out about a mile ahead. The latter must have been as nearly as possible end on to the *Eclair*. On her side the *Eclair* was nearly end on to the *Hoi-kiang*, the latter being just a little on the former's port bow. After making out the other vessel's lights, the *Eclair* ported a little until she dropped the green light and had the red only; and then kept on her course red to red, on which they would have passed amply clear. Until they were close up to one another—something like five or six lengths of the *Eclair* apart—they kept red to red, when suddenly the *Hoi-kiang* shut out her red light and showed her green, indicating that she had starboarded and was crossing the bows of the *Eclair*. When this occurred the *Hoi-kiang* was broad on the port bow of the other steamer. About 20 seconds after the green light appeared the collision occurred. As soon as the *Eclair* saw the green light she did the only thing she could do; she reversed her engines and ported her helm. This course of action, however, had not time to take any substantial effect. The *Hoi-kiang* came into the *Eclair* on her port bow, and the former vessel, which did the striking, went clean into the *Eclair* and practically cut her amidships. Fortunately the overhang of the *Eclair* was very great and although she was cut into so deeply she was not cut below the water-line but had an immense hole knocked in her between the water-line and the under side of the main deck. The *Hoi-kiang* remained sticking in the *Eclair* for some minutes and most of the crew and passengers were rescued at that time. The *Hoi-kiang* then went down by the head. Subsequently the *Eclair* put off a boat and rescued the balance of the other vessel's people from the water. The *Eclair* was able to go at slow speed to a village on shore to the eastwards and was there temporarily repaired. Their explanation of the collision was bad look-out on board the *Hoi-kiang*; circumstances appeared to show that all the people on board her were asleep or at any rate off their guard. It was true the steersman was not asleep but he was in the small wheel-house with a lighted compass and could not be expected to see ahead. Evidence was afterwards taken.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### ROBBERIES IN THE COLONY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 2nd April.

SIR,—The Colony just now is full of beggars and thieves. There can be no doubt that this state of affairs is largely due to His Excellency the Governor's pro-Chinese sentiments. Without the moral support afforded in the shape of extreme leniency to offenders, thieves and beggars would soon revert to their normal proportions. Incidentally, it may be mentioned that those who have not yet turned beggars and thieves are more insolent than ever.—Yours truly,

FAN KWEI.

### "PHILANTHROPY UNLIMITED"

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY PRESS"

Hongkong, 2nd April.

SIR,—Arithmetic is a good thing sometimes but an accomplishment in which "Generous" is somewhat lacking. There are a large number of two-storey Chinese houses at Kowloon the rental of which falls short of \$16 per month, and none, alas! that can be built for \$2,000, \$16 a month return on "a house worth \$2,000" is a "generous" estimate indeed and one that makes the landlord supremely happy—when he gets it. It is not "philanthropy" that makes Chinese houses give a poor return, but Health Ordinances and Sanitary Boards, combined possibly with a tendency on the part of builders to anticipate rather than supply the demand. Chinese houses at the moment are a bit "overdone".—Yours, etc.

HOUSEOWNER.

## THE ADMIRALTY DOCK QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 3rd April.

SIR,—The prospect of the new Admiralty Dock being removed to another site appears to the average Hongkongite almost too good to be true; but the "dead" appearance of the works gives colour to the hope that, if the project is not already abandoned, it is in a fair way to become so. As Stephenson succeeded eventually in filling up that Moss, so the engineers here doubtless could conquer the difficulties which have arisen; but at what a cost! A dock intended to carry the heaviest battleships requires something more than a piled foundation on porous ground: why not admit at once that the game is not worth the candle, and instead of persevering in an error and spending untold money for the sake of saving "face", take a common sense view of the situation and at the same time meet the wishes of the Colonists? That "someone has blundered" is apparent, but that is no reason for perpetuating that blunder; when the whole thing is reviewed it may prove after all a blessing in disguise.

The advantages of removing the Dockyard to the mainland have been pointed out before: the benefits to the mercantile fleet if more space could be allowed are too self-evident to need showing; and the wonderful improvement the removal would make to the City and the Colony at large is incalculable. If another and more suitable site can be obtained—and doubtless the authorities know of several—would it not be feasible for the Colony to take over the existing works and complete the wet docks as originally planned, but with modifications to admit of a bund running along the front so as to give access to the eastern end of the city and relieve the congestion of Queen's Road?

Drawbridges would provide ingress and egress to the docks: and thus we would have what the Colony has been pining for for years—a safe and commodious harbour of refuge in central situation.

It could be a source of revenue to the Colony. Owners of launches, yachts, &c., would willingly pay a rent to have their craft secure from storm or damage by collision when they have no crews on board. During the typhoon season a toll could be levied on every vessel passing the bridges, the rate varying according to the class of sampan or cargo boat; we would then have boats working up to the last safe hour, and starting as soon as ever danger is past, instead of the present race to Causeway Bay, often when no typhoon comes at all; and the subsequent jam when vessels which would get out find it impossible to do so until other craft which block the way are removed.

What a relief, too, to the Government officials; the dredger, tugs, and lighters out of harm's way whenever danger threatens; the large fleet of launches, harbour and police, all handy for service without loss of time and expenditure of coals bringing them from Stonecutters, which at best is insecure, yet the only spot available for shelter.

The financing of the scheme should not be beyond the means of the Colony; the enormous value of the site to be taken over, balanced against the low cost of land on the mainland, should tend to avoid loss on what has already been done. A situation 30 minutes' steaming from Blake Pier might be obtained for very little, with unlimited room for expansion, granite *ad lib*, a perennial stream of fresh water, non-malarial district, good anchorage, safe shelter; but doubtless all likely places have been well surveyed and it is not for the layman to make suggestions.

Before closing, I would request anyone interested to take a bird's-eye view of the Wan-chai anchorage, and compare it with its appearance of 10 years ago; what with the encroachment of the Dockyard works, and the overflow of naval vessels into what used to be an entirely mercantile area, there is hardly room to swing a cat, much less a ship.—Yours, etc.,

NAUTICUS.

### THE ABOMINATION OF STREET BEGGARS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"

Hongkong, 3rd April.

SIR,—I notice this winter an increase in the

number and persistent importunity of street beggars.

If, as I understand, mendicity is forbidden by our Bye Laws, why are not the "bobbies" more alert in running in the beggars?

But though the Police could and doubtless should, do more to check this evil the surest and shortest remedy lies with us. If only people would practise "total abstinence" from bestowing a copper this public nuisance would soon cease. No one wishes Charity to be discouraged but doing out alms to beggars is not true Charity—nor does it relieve the necessities of the most deserving.

"The Master" has said "The poor have ye always with you and whosoever we will, ye may do them good." Let then all who recognise His authority seek out, and substantially relieve, cases of deserving destitution, or if they cannot do this personally, let them employ as almoners those who can and who will only too gladly aid them in their true and Christian alms giving.—Yours, etc.,

A FRIEND OF THE DESERVING POOR.

### THE REPORTED EUROPEAN CASE OF PLAGUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 3rd April, 1903.

SIR,—In your report of the death of the chief steward of the s.s. *Hyades* you state that the body was "found floating . . . in the bottom of the dock occupied by the *Hyades*." I beg to point out that this is incorrect, as the *Hyades* was not in dock at the time but lying alongside the wharf, and it was in making his way to his ship that he fell into the dock, which was then occupied by another ship. By my own enquiry it appears uncertain whether it was a case of plague.—Yours, etc.,

W. B. DIXON,

Chief Manager H.K.W.D. Co.

[Our information that it was a case of plague was taken from a return by the Medical Officer of Health "showing the number of cases of bubonic fever (plague)" notified on April 1st. The only respect in which our report was "incorrect" appears to be that though the body was found in the dock, the *Hyades* was not occupying the dock.—Ed. D.P.]

### RESULTS OF MISTAKEN LENIENCY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 3rd April.

SIR,—It is the opinion, I think, of a great many people in this Colony that the policy of the present Government is one of mistaken leniency towards the Chinese, and I am not surprised to hear of a strong desire on the part of the Chinese community for a continuance of the present Government for another five years. Any petition to appoint H. E. for another term of five years would no doubt be eagerly signed by all the Chinese of the Colony. The worst classes can hardly expect to have such a good time under another Government as they have at present.

We constantly hear of robberies and thefts with no recovery of the stolen goods, and this shows what a rotten state the police are in. But there is a much worse ill, and that is the dumping of bodies of the Chinese who have died of plague and the spread of the disease in consequence. The dumpers are no doubt paid well and the practice will continue, but it might be put a stop to at once by the simple means of cremating any bodies found. A simple remedy, but not attempted, I presume, for fear of hurting the susceptible feelings of the Chinese coolie! If there is any other reason for not trying this way of putting a stop to the practice I should be glad to hear it.—Yours, etc.,

### THE CHINESE AND H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"

Hongkong, 4th April.

SIR,—I read with a good deal of interest, the Petition from the Chinese community to the Secretary of State praying for an extension of



the term of H. E. Sir Henry Blake's governorship of this Colony published in your paper this morning.

Paragraph 10 of the said Petition reads as follows:—

"That the almost bloodless pacification of the New Territory together with the establishment of local tribunals and the promotion of agriculture and industry there, the improvement and augmentation of the police and district watchmen forces, the stern suppression of secret societies, and the deportation of hardened criminals and dangerous characters, have tended to preserve the peace and good order of this Colony in a manner the most effective and unsurpassed."

I wonder whether the recent numerous highway robberies committed on European ladies, and burglaries perpetrated evidently by a gang of "hardened criminals and dangerous characters," can be taken as a criterion of "the improvement and augmentation of the police force?"

Robberies and burglaries and 71 thefts committed on one particular day in various parts of the Colony, as stated by Mr. Henry Humphreys, cannot certainly be taken as evidence that the peace and good order of this Colony have been preserved in a manner "the most effective and unsurpassed." This may be the opinion of the various petitioners, but surely not that of the British and foreign community of Hongkong.—Yours, etc.,

FAIRPLAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 6th April.

SIR,—I have perused with a good deal of care and attention the text of the petition praying for an extension of the period of administration of His Excellency Sir Henry Blake in Hongkong. Although I was one of the signatories of the petition and assisted in obtaining signatures thereto, I must, under circumstances which I will hereinafter explain, admit that my first knowledge of this important document was derived in a perusal of the local newspapers.

Least the purport of my present communication be in any sense misunderstood, permit me at the outset to point out that in loyalty to and admiration of His Excellency's administrative qualities I yield second place to none. My remarks are directed against the method of procedure which dictated the action of the framers of the petition and by which I, in common with a large proportion of those who have supported it, have been misled in regard to the reference made in the petition to the movement initiated by the Honourables Dr. Ho Kai and Wei Yuk, Mr. Fung Wa Chun and others for the establishment of a High School for the Chinese in Hongkong.

This movement had its origin in a petition presented to the Colonial Secretary and dated the 2nd March, 1901. The petition was signed by the two Chinese members of the Legislative Council supported by six other Chinese gentlemen. It purported to have been written "on behalf of an important and influential section of the Chinese community," and pressed upon the attention of Government "the urgent need for a suitable English School for the education of the children—both boys and girls—of the upper classes of the Chinese resident in this Colony." I have emphasised the term "upper classes" by printing the words in italics.

Considerable feeling was engendered among the Chinese upon the first publication of this school petition. It was felt that the memorialists trespassed beyond the limits of their powers when they claimed to represent the views of "an important and influential section of the community," whom they really never consulted. In a communication to the vernacular press I pointed out the irregularity of the procedure and now, through the medium of the British journals, beg to reiterate in substance those remarks. It is high time that the community at large be taken into the confidence of our representatives in public matters affecting the weal or woe of the native community, who have now, thanks to greater enlightenment, begun to take a more active interest in public affairs. Hitherto, the autocratic dictates of a cabal of a few gentlemen seemed sufficient to conduct matters affecting the Chinese and no hue and cry has been publicly raised against any action of theirs, even though such action did not altogether

accord with the views of those whom they presume to represent. Times change and we change with them. The Chinese have begun, as I stated, to grasp the fact that they have a right to be taken into the counsels of their representatives and the full measure of this right they must be given leave to exercise, and exercise it they will with the co-operation of the Press.

No objection is raised at all against the provision of greater educational facilities. Indeed, it is a boon much to be desired. But it is the distinction sought to be created—the splitting up of the community into so-called "upper" and lower classes—which forms the target again which just aspersions are aimed. What after all constitutes the upper classes of Chinese society in Hongkong? Is it the aristocracy of blood, or is it the aristocracy of wealth? If either or both, then what is the standard by which to determine the Chinese upper circles? Then, again, who is the judge of such standard? These and others are questions which must be satisfactorily answered before the "upper classes" can claim the privileges they seek to obtain and which their belittled brethren of the "lower classes" will help with the rates and taxes they contribute to the Colony's exchequer to purchase for the "upper classes" as a luxury for their boys and girls this exclusive school. The Colonial Estimates for 1903 makes provision of a sum of \$20,000 for the Chinese High School. It is not alone the preaching of the doctrine of equality from the rostrum that we want. There must be more of the practice of it. If secondary education is desired by the Chinese of the higher social grade, by all means let them have it. Our conditions are very nearly analogous with those of India, and the recently published report of the Educational Commission appointed by the Government of India appears to me to have settled the point that secondary education must be purchased by the people. It is no duty of the State to provide it.

I stated that my assistance was solicited to co-operate in obtaining signatures. Recognising as I do the goodwill of His Excellency the Governor and his sympathetic administration towards the Chinese I readily consented to be associated with the petition in the direction in which my help was sought. I asked of Mr. Fung Wa Chun if he would give me a copy of the petition to go round with. He stated in effect that it was not necessary for me to have one, as the text would simply be confined to praying for an extension of Sir Henry's administration for another term. Convinced that the petition would contain no debateable matter I went forward with my mission with the result that some hundreds of signatures were collected in the Justices of the Peace, the compradores', and the merchants' lists. Amongst the signatures there are a considerable number whose views are opposed to those of the High School memorialists, and who would certainly have insisted upon the deletion of paragraph 8 of the Petition of the 30th March, 1903, or a modification thereof, before signatures would have been affixed to the signature sheets. With the object of the petition I emphatically assert the Chinese are entirely at one but with the inclusion of this school clause opinions do not entirely concur.—I am, Yours, etc.,

HO KOM TONG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong 7th April.

SIR,—Having read with considerable interest and not without concern, Mr. Ho Kom Tong's letter published in your columns this morning, I should like to add my protest to those of others who, though unwilling to make public their views, are equally incensed at the unwarrantable assumption on the part of the persons originating the Petition. Mr. Ho Kom Tong was lenient in placing the subject before the public and I do not intend to take any departure from those lines, but the necessity of sifting the matter to the very bottom, now that public attention has been secured, calls forth discussion from all those who are interested in this important subject. I notice that accompanying the petition was a proposed scheme for the working of the Chinese High School. This

scheme which was not published with the petition, is included in the Education Commission Blue Book. Is it such a scheme that the originators are ashamed to give publicity to it? I would urge that one of the European members, since our own "Representatives" are interested parties and will not likely move for the production of the document on the Legislative Council Council table, will agitate by question or motion in Council for the production of the document in question, and this at as early a date as possible, seeing that before long a start may be given to the school.—Yours, etc.,

PUN SAI CHEONG.

## THE FOREIGN TRADE OF CHINA IN 1902.

The "Returns of Trade and Trade Reports for the Year 1902," have just been issued by the Statistical Department of the I. M. Customs. The following is the Report:—

### GENERAL.

Three noteworthy events connected with commerce took place during the year: the negotiation of a new British Commercial Treaty, the revision of the Import Tariff, and a heavy fall in exchange. Of these the last may prove important. The revised Import Tariff, owing to the fall in exchange and the rise in silver prices since the years 1897, 1898, and 1899—upon the average values during which years the 5 per cent. calculations were based, in accordance with the terms of the Protocol,—has left the incidence of taxation very much as before. But the collapse in exchange which will call for higher currency prices for new cargo, with the uncertainty of its future movements, naturally disturbs the import trade, while, by augmenting the amount which the Government has to find to pay its gold obligations, it has led to heavier internal taxation, which has a tendency to counteract any temporary advantage to exports. The pessimistic views expressed in some quarters regarding the commercial solvency of the country, based upon the demand of the Government to pay the Indemnity on a silver basis,—as owing to the fall in exchange it cannot afford the extra cost of paying in gold,—and on the fact that the recorded movements of silver show a net export for two years in succession, are without any solid foundation. The Foreign debt of China is trifling when the size and potential resources of the country are considered, and only a very small adjustment between imports and exports is necessary to cover the late increase of indebtedness. At the same time it is disappointing to note that trade always seems to be the first victim when heavier taxation is decided upon. What the foreign trade of China might be is shown by a comparison with Japan, which, with a population of less than one-seventh, spends almost exactly as much as China on foreign goods. But before such expansion can be looked for domestic trade must be relieved from the taxation of goods in transit, local industries must be assisted instead of being hampered by excise and by taxes on raw materials, and the enormous resources of the country must be developed. Meanwhile trade is slowly growing, and will continue to grow, in spite of artificial obstructions.

The commercial solvency of the country, however, is one thing and the financial solvency of the Government another; and there is no doubt that great difficulty is experienced under the present defective fiscal system in collecting the additional revenue required in consequence of closer contact with Western nations. Reform in this direction is urgently needed. As obstructing the growth of commerce, any proposals to raise more revenue by methods tending to check the domestic trade—such as the imposition of a consumption tax on native goods—or to hinder the progress of local industries or the introduction of foreign capital by a heavy excise on machine-made products, are to be deprecated as having a tendency to lower the purchasing power of the people by preventing the development of resources. China can absorb no more imports unless she has more to give in exchange, a condition dependent upon cheaper transit, which railways will gradually provide, upon the freedom of native goods from uncertain and often heavy taxation, and upon the discouragement of



adulteration, false packing, and faulty preparation. It is evident that any attempt to raise revenue by further burdens on domestic trade must defeat the object in view by impoverishing the people; but by the abolition of all internal taxation on native goods, except certain specified articles of luxury, together with reform in the treatment of opium and salt—the former being made an Imperial monopoly and the latter being taxed only at the place of production—it is estimated that sufficient Revenue would be obtained to meet the needs of the Government while the stimulus to production would lead to an increase of prosperity reacting on foreign commerce.

#### REVENUE

The report written last year hazarded the prediction "that the collection during 1902 may not fall far short of 30 millions of taels." Notwithstanding the reduction of the export duty on tea, a short export of silk, and a decrease of over half a million taels in the amount collected from native opium, the total collection for 1902 amounted to Hk. Tls. 36,007,044, which was Hk. Tls. 4,469,470 in excess of the total in 1901 and Hk. Tls. 3,345,584 better than the collection in 1899, which was then the highest on record. Import duties show an advance over those of the previous year of Hk. Tls. 3,782,782; export duties, notwithstanding the drawbacks mentioned above, of Hk. Tls. 186,331; coast trade duties, of Hk. Tls. 219,876; tonnage dues, of Hk. Tls. 111,349; transit dues, of Hk. Tls. 686,647; opium *lekin*, of Hk. Tls. 130,271. The only decrease is found under opium duty, which fell off by Hk. Tls. 597,789, but as the loss on native opium amounted to Hk. Tls. 646,566, there was a gain as far as the foreign import was concerned. The increase in transit dues arises from a new system in Tientsin, where these dues did not formerly pass through the Customs accounts. The extra receipts under import duties must be principally ascribed to the operation of the effective 5 per cent. collection during 10 months of the year.

#### FOREIGN TRADE

Conditions were not altogether favourable to commerce. A very severe outbreak of cholera throughout almost the whole Empire; droughts followed by floods in the South, where a rebellion is not yet suppressed; and a want of confidence in the northern provinces, all had a retarding influence. The fall in exchange had no immediate effect in checking imports, as contracts are made some months in advance; and, as exchange declined steadily throughout the year, with the exception of a faint recovery during the summer, native dealers were ready to close rather than risk a further rise in silver prices. The experience of the past shows that the import trade has progressed in spite of a falling exchange, and presumably it will gradually accommodate itself to a new scale of prices; but a fall of 20 per cent. in one year cannot fail to be a disturbing factor which may make itself felt in 1903. The estimated value of the foreign trade, import and export, was Hk. Tls. 529,545,489, a figure never before reached.

(a) Imports.—The value of the net imports was estimated at Hk. Tls. 315,333,905, and this value, owing to the operation of the 5 per cent. ad valorem duty collected during 10 months of the year, may be taken as approximately correct. It is a large advance on any previous year and should reassure those who imagine that China is becoming poorer.

The importation of Opium was 50,801 piculs—again a small advance. The demand throughout the year was brisk, especially for the Bengal varieties, although the fall in exchange forced up prices. The consumption of Malwa fell off, partly owing to its dearthness and partly owing to its extensive adulteration in China with the native drug. The crop of Szechuen Opium was short, and the disturbances in that province interfered for a time with its free movement; this raised the price and assisted Indian Opium in the difficulties caused by exchange.

The value of Cotton Goods of all kinds imported was estimated at Hk. Tls. 127,545,300, as compared with Hk. Tls. 99,651,999 during 1901, and nearly all the principal staples shared in the increase. Large purchases were made towards the end of the previous year to replenish depleted stocks and prepare for the expected revival of trade in the northern markets, and the arrivals during 1902 were so

heavy that a considerable quantity remained in the godowns of the Foreign Importers at the end of the year. Grey Shirtings rose from 4,121,655 to 6,317,698 pieces; White Shirtings, from 2,476,846 to 2,743,104 pieces. T. Cloths of all kinds advanced, especially Indian, which rose from 15,320 to 126,485 pieces. There was a good demand for Drills, and English Jeans made the astonishing advance from 41,083 to 360,858 pieces, while Dutch and American about doubled. Sheetings also found an increased enquiry, the American trade going ahead as usual. It is interesting to note, and is not without significance, that Japanese Drills rose from 23 to 11,621 pieces, and Japanese Sheetings, from 13,066 to 115,366 pieces. Chintzes, etc., were nearly trebled in quantity. Twills doubled, and Turkey Reds rose from 192,930 to 276,996 pieces. Handkerchiefs and Towels showed satisfactory advance. English Cotton Yarn continued its downward course and has now fallen to 32,351 piculs, while Indian has reached 1,887,086 piculs, and Japanese, 522,403 piculs.

The trade in Woollen Goods showed that the improvement of the previous year was only temporary, and the importation fell off again.

Metals were valued at Hk. Tls. 10,574,928, about the same as in 1901, and the trade presented no special features of interest except an increase in the importation of Copper, presumably for the coinage of the new cash.

Sundries were valued at Hk. Tls. 136,948,982, or about 17 millions higher than in 1901. The import of Rice was doubled, owing to bad crops in the South, and was valued at Hk. Tls. 23,611,125. Morphia was again imported in larger quantities, but it is to be hoped that this was not due to increased demand, but to the higher duty soon to come into force. Cement, Clocks and Watches, Aniline Dyes, Window Glass, Japan Matches, Needles, and Sugar of all kinds all show progress. On the other hand, Kerosene Oil, with the exception of the Oil from Borneo, shows decrease, Russian Oil having fallen to 10,105,886 gallons from 32,486,070 gallons, thus losing the ground gained during the last 10 years.

(b) Exports.—The value of Exports was estimated at Hk. Tls. 214,181,584, or Hk. Tls. 44,524,827 higher than in 1901. There is reason to believe that the trade might safely be estimated at a considerably higher figure, as the values adopted at the ports for Returns purposes appear in many instances to be too low. The export of Sesamum Seed, an increasing trade, rose from 297,365 to 382,302 piculs, due to the opening up of new country by the southern section of the Lu-Han Railway. Beans and Beans, for which there is a large demand from Japan, Bristles, Cassia Lignes, Featherers, Hemp, Hides, Nutgalls, Oils, Rhubarb, Animal Tallow, Tobacco, and Wood all showed satisfactory advances. The demand for Straw Braid continues to improve. There was a large export of Raw Cotton to Japan, whence it returns in the shape of Yarn, which is able to compete with the heavily taxed home-made product. The shrinkage in Mats, from 33,334,410 to 24,002,140 pieces, is said to be due to quantities passing through Kwangchowwan by steamer under French flag to Macao, thus not passing through the Returns of the Customs. The falling off in Rush Hats from 7,158,982 to 3,053,378 pieces was due to a smaller demand for these goods, which are being replaced, especially in America, by hats made of wood shavings (Hinoki) imported from Japan and plaited in Ningpo.

Although the quality showed some improvement as compared with that of 1901, there seems a consensus of opinion amongst experts that the Teas from all districts except Ichang, have fallen off deplorably in quality and style during the last 20 years. The Chinese will take no advice and refuse to listen to any suggestions regarding change in cultivation and manufacture while their great rivals in India and Ceylon pay the closest attention to all details and are ever on the look-out for improvements. Strong representations made in the spring induced the Chinese Government to reduce the Export Duty to one-half, but it still remains too high, being at least 12½ per cent. on Common Teas; and, as *lekin* and other internal taxes were not interfered with, although in some districts they almost

equalled the Export Duty, it is to be feared that this half-hearted step towards putting China Teas on a level with untaxed competitors will not be of much benefit to the trade. The transport of some 3 millions of pounds by the Siberian Railway was a new departure which will be watched with great interest, and one which might lead to important developments if the Chinese could be induced to pay more attention to quality. Some reduction in the heavy Import Duty charged in Russia would be of great assistance to the trade, especially as Russia is now the principal purchaser of Black Teas. The total export of all kinds of Tea was about 31 per cent higher than in 1901; but the shipments to Great Britain showed no improvement, although the deliveries from bond in London from June to December were better by 3 millions of pounds. The United States took 168,501 piculs of Black Tea, as against 96,820 piculs in the previous year, and 126,196 piculs of Green Tea, as against 86,747 piculs. This is explained by the fact that the War Tax of 20 gold cents per pound was to be removed on the 1st January, 1903, and stocks had been reduced to a minimum to escape the expense of bonding. Moreover, it is anticipated that lower prices in consequence of the removal of the Duty will increase the demand. Black Tea via Kiakhta rose from 17,705 to 66,464 piculs, presumably because the route was safe again after the late disturbances. The export of Brick Tea showed a considerable advance, Black Brick having improved from 244,565 to 493,103 piculs, and Green Brick from 48,957 to 29,932 piculs. Congon Tea consumed east of Iskutsk was formerly free from Duty, which has now been imposed; the consequence has been that its place is being taken by Brick Tea, of which a finer quality is now demanded. Ceylon Dust, which is blacker in colour than China Dust, is imported to improve the quality and appearance of the Bricks. It may be mentioned that the export of Green Tea from Ceylon to the United States, which was till lately the monopoly of China, rose from 797,796 pounds in 1901 to 1,963,456 pounds in 1902. It is to be regretted that the Chinese Government and the Tea guilds do not take more energetic measures to assist this valuable but moribund trade.

The year was not favourable to the Silk industry. Warm weather in the early part of April hatched the eggs before the mulberry leaves were ready, and a large proportion of the young worms had to be destroyed. The weather during the rearing season was damp and cold, and the surviving worms, enfeebled by the disease which nothing has been done to check, and having no proper protection against variations in temperature, yielded a crop of silk poor in quality and quantity. The second crop, produced under more favourable conditions as regards weather, turned out unusually well; but the total production is said to have been very short of the average. Owing to a steady demand from Europe and America, the short outturn, and the fall in exchange, prices rose so much that the silver value of the trade exceeded that of the previous year. Steam flatrures begin the year under unfortunate circumstances, as the owners had made contracts for cocoons at reasonable prices early in March and April, and, having sold part of their production forward at prices yielding a fair profit, found the cocoon contractors unable to carry out their contracts, owing to the unprecedented prices asked for cocoons by the farmers. Fortunately, cocoons of the second crop were obtained at comparatively cheap rates, so that the final result of the year's working was fairly satisfactory.

(c) Re-exports.—The value of foreign imports re-exported to foreign countries was Hk. Tls. 10,182,406, consisting principally of piece goods, Indian yarn, lastings, Spanish stripes, iron sheets and plates, tinplates, coal, raw cotton, aniline dyes, ginsewing machinery, household stores, and Formosan tea—sent to America, Corea, Hongkong, and Japan.

#### SHIPPING

Entries from foreign ports were 8,737 vessels, aggregating 7,224,000 tons, as compared with 7,757 vessels, having a total tonnage of 6,839,000 tons, in 1901. Coastwise entries were 25,678 vessels, making 19,749,000 tons, as against 24,438 vessels, representing 17,859,000 tons, in 1901. The total tonnage, entries and clearances was



53,990,000 tons; and of this total Great Britain contributed 50 per cent, China, 17 per cent; Japan, 14 per cent; Germany, 13 per cent; France, 1.50 per cent; Norway, 1.50 per cent; Russia and America, each 1 per cent; all other flags, 1 per cent.

## TREASURY

The movements of gold and silver bullion between China and foreign countries, as reported to the Customs, show a net export of gold worth Hk. Tls. 9,410,232 and a net export of silver to the value of Hk. Tls. 13,844,654. As this statement of the export of silver might, without explanation, confirm the alarmist reports which have appeared in certain publications that a drain has set in to meet the payments on account of the Indemnity, it is considered well to print the following table showing how the figures are arrived at. It will be seen that of the Hk. Tls. 13,844,654 no less a sum than Hk. Tls. 11,869,353 represents the balance of exchanges in dollars with Hongkong. The price of dollars throughout the year having been above the parity of silver, it is certain they were not sent abroad from Hongkong, and are destined to filter back to the mainland. Consequently, taking only the figures for Bar silver and Sycee, we find there was a net recorded export of Hk. Tls. 1,933,002 only. Considered in connexion with the large imports during 1899, which had no relation to foreign commerce but were brought in for the support of military contingents now with drawn, a still larger export would have been without any serious significance. [We have reduced the table to net imports and exports. — E.D.D.P.]

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF SILVER.

| (Values in Haikwan Taels at Current Rates.)         |                       |                       |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Countries from which imported and to which exported | Net Imports. Hk. Tls. | Net Exports. Hk. Tls. |  |
| Europe ...                                          | 795,221               |                       |  |
| Manila ...                                          |                       | 79,500                |  |
| America ...                                         | 2,128,064             |                       |  |
| India, Burma, etc.                                  |                       | 3,934,623             |  |
| Sta. Settlements ...                                | 92,294                |                       |  |
| Vladivostock ...                                    |                       | 15,994                |  |
| Corea ...                                           | 139,617               |                       |  |
| Suigon & Tonkin ...                                 | 186,527               |                       |  |
| H'kong and Macao ...                                |                       | 11,804,287            |  |
| Japan ...                                           |                       | 105,245               |  |
| Formosa ...                                         |                       | 1,244,681             |  |
| Other places ...                                    |                       | 33,587                |  |
| Total ...                                           | 3,342,663             | 17,187,317            |  |

Net exports Hk. Tls. 13,844,654

Values.—The estimated value of the foreign import and export trade, exclusive of bullion, is calculated on the same principle as in former re-exports; but import duties and charges have not been deducted in the case of some ports which recorded the landing values upon which 5 per cent. import duties were calculated. Net Imports (recorded landing values) ... Hk. Tls. 223,205,438

|                                                       |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Net Import (recorded market values) ...               | 92,158,467  |
|                                                       | 315,363,935 |
| From market values deduct:—                           |             |
| Import Duties ...                                     | 2,366,032   |
| Opium Duty and                                        |             |
| Lekin ...                                             | 5,638,206   |
| 7 per cent. for                                       |             |
| charges, etc. ...                                     | 6,551,092   |
|                                                       | 14,455,330  |
| Imports value at moment of landing ...                | 300,908,575 |
| Exports to Foreign countries, market value ...        | 214,181,584 |
| Add Duty, estimated at ...                            | 4,791,167   |
| Add 8 per cent. on market value for charges, etc. ... | 17,137,527  |
| Exports value at moment of shipment ...               | 236,107,278 |

F. E. Taylor,  
Statistical Secretary.

The Emperor of China has sent two hundred Orders of the Dragon for distribution among Japanese officers of the force that occupied Peking after the Boxer troubles, in recognition of their services in guarding the Imperial Palace.

## THE LAWN-TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

Play in the Lawn-Tennis Tournament, on the Cricket Ground, is now in full swing. The results, so far are as follows:—

## DOUBLE HANDICAP—1ST ROUND.

J. M. Atkinson and E. J. Grist (owe 32.6) beat Wei On and P. P. J. Wodehouse (owe 3/6) 8-6, 2-6, 6-0

## SECOND ROUND.

H. Hancock and T. C. Gray (owe 3/6) beat E. R. Hallifax and W. J. Newland (owe 15.4).

## PROFESSIONAL PAIRS.

P. M. Heath and P. Strickland (received to C. I. H. Beavis and E. C. Pontifex).

## SINGLE HANDICAP—"A" CLASS.

P. Strickland (owe 15) beat O. J. Barnes (scratch).

W. L. Martin (owe 4/6) beat E. R. Hallifax (owe 15), 6-4, 6-2.

E. J. Grist (owe 15) beat W. J. Newland (owe 2/6), 6-4, 6-2.

## CHAMPIONSHIP.

C. Rademacher beat J. E. L. e.

H. M. S. Man beat N. S. Trimmingham.

H. Hancock beat C. E. H. Beavis.

## SINGLES—"A" CLASS.

T. Tyrwhitt (receive 2/6) beat P. M. Heath (owe 30).

G. A. Cooke (scratch) beat C. P. Chater (scratch).

## SINGLES—"B" CLASS.

H. W. Sayer (owe 15) beat E. J. Hughes (receive 3/6).

W. J. S. Harvey (owe 15) beat M. A. A. Souza (owe 15).

## DOUBLES.

H. Pinckney and J. H. Yeats (owe 30.2) beat C. Rademacher and H. Humphreys (owe 15.4).

W. L. Martin and A. S. Butt (owe 15.4) beat R. A. Schlenders and F. H. Bell.

## PROFESSIONAL PAIRS.

H. Pinckney and F. H. Yeats beat Wei On and E. J. Grist.

E. Miles and L. A. Fanshawe beat B. E. Han-on and P. P. J. Wodehouse.

T. Tyrwhitt and E. A. Ram beat K. A. Schlenders and F. H. Bell.

J. H. Swan and J. M. Atkinson beat W. Armstrong and G. H. Edwards.

## THE HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Practicing on the Kowloon Range over the 200, 500, and 600 yards ranges last week, Sergt. Instructor Davies, R.M.L.I. of H.M.S. *Tamar*, put on a "highest possible" viz, 105, thus taking the "second" from Mr Baldwin who held it with 104. Starting with a magpie for his sighting shot at 200, he compiled a "possible" at that range, following this up with "possibles" at both the 500 and 600 yards distance, his sighting shots at these ranges being also in the bull's eye. There was a large attendance for the final practice before Easter on Saturday including five lady members. The following are the best scores made:—

|                           | 200  | 500  | 600  | Haud- | Tl. |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|-------|-----|
|                           | yds. | yds. | yds. | cap   |     |
| Mr. C. H. Eissot, R.N.*   | 31   | 33   | 23   | 15    | 102 |
| Mr. Stackwood *           | 32   | 35   | 31   | —     | 98  |
| Mr. Crocker, R.N.*        | 33   | 35   | 29   | —     | 97  |
| Sgt. Thonrhill, R.E.*     | 34   | 35   | 27   | —     | 96  |
| Mr. J. Andrew*            | 28   | 32   | 31   | 3     | 94  |
| Mr. R. Stewart*           | 34   | 29   | 30   | —     | 93  |
| Mr. Penning*              | 31   | 32   | 24   | 5     | 92  |
| Mr. Lapsley               | 28   | 35   | 28   | —     | 91  |
| Mr. Pidgeon               | 33   | 30   | 27   | —     | 90  |
| Mr. Northcote             | 25   | 21   | 23   | 21    | 90  |
| Mr. Gr. y.                | 32   | 30   | 26   | —     | 88  |
| Mr. Lloyd, R.N.           | 29   | 29   | 28   | —     | 86  |
| Col. Sgt. Cross, R.M.L.I. | 32   | 26   | 27   | —     | 84  |
| Mrs. R. K. Leigh          | 30   | 29   | 13   | 12    | 84  |

\* Winners of spoons.

Austria intends to send an expert to China, who will endeavour to secure the participation of a number of mercantile firms for the foundation of a large banking institute. The Austrian Government will eventually contribute 12,500,000 kronen, this amount being half of the share capital. The chief office of the Bank will be in Tientsin.

## CRICKET.

UNION CHURCH v. CRAIGENGOWER C.C.  
The cricket match between teams representing the above was played at the Happy Valley on and the 4th inst. ended in an easy win for the Union Church. Appended are the scores and analyses:—

| UNION CHURCH.                          |    |
|----------------------------------------|----|
| Rev. O. H. Hickling, c. subs. b. Brawn | 0  |
| A. Mackenzie, not out                  | 59 |
| C. R. S. Cooper, b. Brawn              | 3  |
| T. E. Pearce, b. Herton                | 17 |
| G. Grimble, l.b.w. b. Brawn            | 5  |
| J. W. C. Bonnar, c. Stuart, b. Brawn   | 1  |
| W. M. Everall, c. and b. Brawn         | 8  |
| B. Henderson, b. Herton                | 1  |
| J. A. Fays, b. Herton                  | 0  |
| J. Gloyn, b. Brawn                     | 0  |
| C. C. Hickling, b. Brawn               | 0  |
| Extras                                 | 11 |

Total ... 85

## CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

| First Innings.               |   | Second Innings.      |     |
|------------------------------|---|----------------------|-----|
| J. P. Jordan, b. Cooper      | 0 |                      |     |
| A. O. Brawn, c. Hender-      | 3 | not out              | 40  |
| son, b. Pearce               |   |                      |     |
| J. D. Kinnaird, c. and b     | 4 | not out              | 116 |
| Cooper                       |   |                      |     |
| P. Pestonji, c. O. E. Hick-  | 1 |                      |     |
| ling, b. Pearce              |   |                      |     |
| M. E. Asger, b. Pearce       | 9 |                      |     |
| L. A. Rose, c. Everall, b    | 1 |                      |     |
| Cooper                       |   |                      |     |
| J. L. Stuart, c. & b. Pearce | 0 | c. Pearce, b. Cooper | 8   |
| F. R. Herton, b. Cooper      | 1 |                      |     |
| E. Ford, not out             | 0 |                      |     |
| H. H. Taylor, b. Cooper      | 0 |                      |     |
| A. E. Asger, c. Pearce, b    | 0 |                      |     |
| Cooper                       | 0 |                      |     |
| Extras                       | 2 | Extras               | 16  |

Total ... 21. Total (for 1 wicket) 70

## BOWLING ANALYSIS.

| UNION CHURCH. |      |    |    |
|---------------|------|----|----|
|               | O.   | M. | R. |
| Brawn         | 14.5 | 1  | 36 |
| Pestonji      | 6    | —  | 12 |
| Herton        | 8    | 1  | 26 |

  

| CRAIGENGOWER C.C. |    |                 |    |
|-------------------|----|-----------------|----|
| First Innings.    |    | Second Innings. |    |
|                   | O. | M.              | R. |
| Cooper            | 9  | 4               | 10 |
| Pearce            | 9  | 3               | 9  |
| Rev. Hickling     | —  | —               | —  |
| Grimble           | —  | —               | —  |
| Mackenzie         | —  | —               | —  |
| Fage              | —  | —               | —  |

## ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

## CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR APRIL.

The following cards were returned:—

|                     |     |   |    |      |
|---------------------|-----|---|----|------|
| Mr. C. E. H. Beavis | 85  | — | 2  | = 83 |
| Mr. W. L. Martin    | 95  | — | 12 | = 83 |
| Mr. A. B. Lowson    | 90  | — | 6  | = 84 |
| Mr. E. J. Grist     | 91  | — | 5  | = 86 |
| Mr. W. C. D. Turner | 105 | — | 18 | = 87 |

31 entries.

## POOL.

|                     |     |   |    |      |
|---------------------|-----|---|----|------|
| Mr. C. E. H. Beavis | 85  | — | 2  | = 83 |
| Mr. W. L. Martin    | 95  | — | 12 | = 83 |
| Mr. A. B. Lowson    | 90  | — | 6  | = 84 |
| Mr. E. J. Grist     | 91  | — | 5  | = 86 |
| Mr. W. C. D. Turner | 105 | — | 18 | = 87 |
| Comdr. Nicholson    | 104 | — | 13 | = 92 |

22 entries.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Cairns, Insular Surveyor of the Port of Manila, has come to Hongkong for the purpose of purchasing boats for the Customs Service there.

In the professional pairs at the Tennis Tournament we gave it that H. Pinckney and F. H. Yeats were beaten by E. J. Grist and Wei On. This turns out to be a mistake; Messrs. Pinckney and Yeats were the winners. The Governor-General of French Indo-China has decided to set about forthwith the construction of a railway from Annam, through Laos, to connect at Ubon with the Korat-Bangkok line.

The *Opinion* of Saigon tells of short crops dearth, and distress in several provinces in that quarter. The price of grain has risen considerably, and mills are hard put to it how to work at a profit. Several rice mills are in trouble and a very large mill had lately a narrow escape from failure, and could only tide over the hard times by securing heavy banking advances.



Two Frenchmen were arrested at Singapore last week while they were taking a photograph of the Singapore Club.

Laron Mumm von Schwarzenstein, German Ambassador in Peking, will, it is said, return to his post in May. He intends to make the journey from Germany, via Siberia.

The Korean Government is negotiating with Belgian bankers for a loan of \$30,000,000, secured on the import duties. Several important railway concessions in Korea will also be granted to Belgian bankers.

A Japanese has been arrested by the Kobe police for being found in possession of 7,700 forged \$5 notes of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The police are on the search for accomplices.

The Directors of the Yangtze Insurance Association, Ltd., will recommend at the ordinary general meeting of shareholders to be held on the 21st instant the payment of a dividend of 20 per cent to shareholders, and the transfer of \$25,000 to reserve, which will then stand at \$675,000.

The *Sinwénpao* publishes a letter from Peking stating that advances had been received from Heilungchiang province (Northern Manchuria) reporting a repetition of the Blagovestchensk massacre in 1900, which although on a small scale possessed all the bloodthirstiness and ruthlessness displayed by the Russian troops in 1900. It seems, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that at a place called Erbganè, in that province, there are large numbers of Chinese engaged in washing, or placer-mining for gold in the rivers in the region. Lately, however, the place has been suddenly visited by Russian troops and for some reason or other a massacre began, in which over two hundred Chinese were ruthlessly shot down by the Russians.

## COMMERCIAL.

### SILK.

CANTON, 27th March.—Exports.—Re-reels.—No further contracts in new silk are reported. Filatures.—A much quieter tone has prevailed since our last, especially during the latter part of the fortnight. Settlements for Europe have been only very moderate and the stock is beginning to show signs of the ill-assortment usually apparent as the season draws to its close. Sales include:—Wing King Lun 9/11 at \$1,080, Quan Wo On 9/11 at \$1,070, Yuan Fung Seng 10/12 at \$1,050, Hop King Wa 10/12 at \$1,045, Mei Lun Hing 10/12, King Tack On 10/12 at \$1,400/\$1,030, Miu King Lon 11/13, 5th crop, at \$1,075, Kwong Shun Hang, Kwong Shun Ching 11/13, 13/15 at \$1,060/\$1,040, Kwong Ho 11/13, 13/15 at \$1,250/\$1,000, Mee Kee, Shun King 13/15 at \$1,020, Yee Woo Cheong 18/22 at \$920. Considerable enquiry has continued to rule for offers in new silk, but the prices at present asked for 2nd and 3rd crop afford very little inducement to engage in forward contracts. Short-reels.—Sustained dullness has characterised the American trade. A few lots only have sold from stock at easier rates, say: Kwong Shun 14/16 at \$985, Kwong Lun Hing 14/16 at \$985, Jik Hing Cheong 14/16 at \$975. In new silk, Kwong Wo Tai is reported to have contracted at \$935. Waste Silk.—Owing to a revival in native speculation, the decline on Steam Waste advised in our last was checked early in the fortnight and local prices recovered \$2 to \$3 per picul. The movement, however, has died away. Exporters have held almost entirely aloof and holders are again distinctly weaker at the close.

### CAMPHOR.

Hongkong, 10th April.—No arrivals.

### SUGAR.

Hongkong, 10th April.—There is no market, and prices are declining.

|                         |                  |        |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------|
| Shakloong, No. 1, White | \$8.45 to \$8.50 | picul. |
| Do. 2, White            | 7.55 to 7.60     | "      |
| Shakloong, No. 1, Brown | 6.15 to 6.20     | "      |
| Do. 2, Brown            | 6.05 to 6.10     | "      |
| Swatow, No. 1, White    | 8.25 to 8.30     | "      |
| Do. No. 1, White        | 7.35 to 7.40     | "      |
| Do. 1, Brown            | 5.90 to 5.95     | "      |
| Do. 2, Brown            | 5.75 to 5.80     | "      |
| Foochow Sugar Candy     | 12.25 to 12.30   | "      |
| Shakloong               | 10.70 to 10.75   | "      |

### RICE.

Hongkong, 10th April.—No demands having come forward the prices are going downward.

|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Saigon, Ordinary                | \$3.53 to 3.60 |
| " Round, Good quality           | 5.30 to 5.35   |
| " Long                          | 5.45 to 5.50   |
| Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 | 4.10 to 4.15   |
| " Garden, No. 1                 | 4.30 to 4.35   |
| " White                         | 5.00 to 5.05   |
| " Fine Cargo                    | 5.75 to 5.80   |

### COTTON.

Hongkong, 9th April.—Small business in superior parcels at a decline of 1/4. Stock, about 3,500 bales.

|                       |                |       |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------|
| Bombay                | 23.00 to 24.00 | picul |
| Bengal (New), Rangoo  | 24.00 to 25.50 | "     |
| and Dacca             |                | "     |
| Shanghai and Japanese | 28.00 to 28.50 | "     |
| Tungchow and Ningpo   | 28.00 to 28.50 | "     |
| Sale                  | 450 bales.     |       |

### YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 9th April:—A quiet but steady demand has been experienced throughout the past fortnight and a fairly large number of bales have changed hands both in goods on the spot and to arrive at about late rates. Here and there, however, slight fluctuations are noticeable, but on the whole, the market may be termed unchanged. Tens have, as usual, attracted most attention, but generally all counts are dealt in. Nos. 6s. and 8s. are wanted, but scarce. At the close the market has again become quiet, country buyers returning to the interior for their annual "grave-worshipping" festival, and we do not expect any business of importance to transpire before the beginning of next month.

Local Manufacture:—The local mill productions are firmer all round, and sales of about 1,500 bales No. 10s. and 12s., May-June delivery, at \$103 1/2 and \$106 respectively, have transpired.

Japanese Yarn:—The firmness of importers is restricting business and only small sales of 300 bales No. 20s. Setsu at \$133 1/2 have been reported.

Raw Cotton:—The market has been featureless and business continues to drag. Indian descriptions are pouring in steadily, but with a corresponding off-take of 2,500 bales exported to Kobe stocks are reduced and now amount to close upon 4,500 bales. The sales of the interval are only 250 bales superfine Bengal at from \$24 1/2 to \$25. There has been no stock or transactions in China Cotton. Quotations are \$22 to \$26 Indian and \$26 to \$28 Chinese Cotton.

Exchange on India has continued firm and shows a further advance, having closed yesterday at Rs. 120 1/2 for T/T and Rs. 120 1/2 for Post. On Shanghai 73 1/2 and on Yokohama 78 1/2.

The undernoted business in imported and local yarns is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended 29th ultimo, viz:—

Indian:—There has been a brisk revival in the demand for Tientsin and Newchwang and total sales aggregate 15,000 bales, comprising 5,994 bales No. 10s., 3,360 bales No. 12s., 1,940 bales No. 16s., and 3,706 bales No. 20s., prices showing an advance of Tls. 1 1/2 in No. 10s., and Tls. 1 in No. 16s., No. 12s. and 20s., continuing unchanged, market closing strong. Unsold stocks were estimated at 33,000 bales.

Japanese:—There has been more doing in these Spinnings; sales reported being about 1,300 bales on the basis of Tls. 94 to 98 1/2 for No. 16s., and Tls. 97 to Tls. 105 for No. 20s., prices showing an advance of half a tael in No. 16s., and Tls. 3 to 4 in No. 20s., market closing firm.

Local:—There has been very little doing in these threads, sales reported being some 400 bales No. 14s., at Tls. 95 to 95 1/2, and No. 16s. at Tls. 97.

### MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Hongkong 9th April.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20  | \$94.00 to \$134.00 |
| English—Nos. 16 to 24 | 114.00 to 120.00    |
| " 22 to 24            | 120.00 to 128.00    |
| " 28 to 32            | 136.00 to 142.00    |
| " 38 to 42            | 155.00 to 170.00    |

### COTTON PIECE GOODS.

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.        | 2.30 to 2.40 |
| 7 lbs.                       | 2.50 to 2.60 |
| 8.4 lbs.                     | 3.30 to 4.10 |
| 9 to 10 lbs.                 | 4.00 to 5.60 |
| White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| 58 to 60                     | 3.45 to 3.75 |
| 64 to 66                     | 4.00 to 5.50 |
| Fine                         | 5.75 to 6.20 |
| Book-folds                   | 4.75 to 7.50 |

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Victoria Lawns—12 yards        | 0.80 to 1.75 |
| T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y | 2.00 to 2.30 |
| 7lbs. (32 " )                  | 2.40 to 2.85 |
| 6lbs. (32 " ), Mexs.           | 2.50 to 2.75 |
| 7lbs. (32 " )                  | 3.00 to 3.50 |
| 8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)         | 3.30 to 4.00 |
| Drills, English—40yds., 13 1/2 | 4.75 to 7.30 |
| 5 14 lbs.                      |              |

### FANCY COTTONS.

|                                      |              |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/2 to 8 lbs. | 1.50 to 5.50 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|

### BROCADES—Dyed

### DAMASKS.

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Chintzes—Assorted     | per yard     |
| Velvets—Black, 22 in. | 0.29 to 0.60 |
| Velveteens—18 in.     | 0.20 to 0.29 |

|                                   |                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.37 | per dozen to 5.00 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|

### WOOLLENS.

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops  | 0.75 to 2.25 |
| Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths | 1.25 to 3.00 |

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs. | 7.45 to 9.50 |
| Assorted                     | 7.50 to 9.65 |

|                            |                |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Camlets—Assorted           | 13.50 to 38.00 |
| Lastings—30 yd., 31 inches | 14.00 to 21.00 |
| Assorted                   |                |

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| Orleans—Plain | 10.00 to — |
|---------------|------------|

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. | 0.65 to 0.90 |
| Fine quality          | 1.60 to 2.50 |

### METALS.

|                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Iron—Nail Rod                 | 4.80 to — |
| Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.) | 4.80 to — |

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Swedish Bar     | 4.80 to — |
| Small Round Rod | 5.20 to — |

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in. | 6.20 to — |
| Wire, 16/25           | 9.50 to — |

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Wire Rope Old                  | 3.50 to —  |
| Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop | 10.10 to — |

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Australian                   | 10.10 to — |
| Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz. | 45.00 to — |

|                    |            |
|--------------------|------------|
| Vivian's 14/20 oz. | 45.00 to — |
| Elliot's 14/20 oz. | 45.00 to — |

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Composition Nails   | 61.00 to — |
| Japan Copper, Slabs | 30.00 to — |

|     |            |
|-----|------------|
| Tin | 98.00 to — |
|-----|------------|

|            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| Tin-Plates | 8.30 to — |
|------------|-----------|

|                |           |
|----------------|-----------|
| Steel 1/2 to 1 | 6.50 to — |
|----------------|-----------|

### SUNDRIES.

|             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| Quicksilver | 18.00 to — |
|-------------|------------|

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| Window Glass | 5.75 to — |
|--------------|-----------|

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| Kerosene Oil | 3.18 to — |
|--------------|-----------|

### CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

THURSDAY, 9th April.

### EXCHANGE.

#### ON LONDON.

|                                    |         |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| Telegraphic Transfer               | 1/7 1/2 |
| Bank Bills, on demand              | 1/7 1/2 |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight      | 1/7 1/2 |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight     | 1/7 1/2 |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight        | 1/7 1/2 |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight | 1/7 1/2 |

#### ON PARIS.

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Bank Bills, on demand   | 202 |
| Credits 4 months' sight | 206 |

#### ON GERMANY.

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| On demand | 165 |
|-----------|-----|

#### ON NEW YORK.

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Bank Bills, on demand   | 39 1/2 |
| Credits, 60 days' sight | 40     |

#### ON BOMBAY.

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Telegraphic Transfer | 120 1/2 |
| Bank, on demand      | 120 1/2 |

#### ON CALCUTTA.

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Telegraphic Transfer | 120 1/2 |
| Bank, on demand      | 120 1/2 |

#### ON SHANGHAI.

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Bank, at sight          | 73     |
| Private, 30 days' sight | 73 1/2 |

#### ON YOKOHAMA.

|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| On demand | 78 1/2 |
|-----------|--------|

#### ON MANILA.

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| On demand | 1 p.c. p.m. |
|-----------|-------------|

#### ON SINGAPORE.

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| On demand | nominal |
|-----------|---------|

#### ON BATAVIA.

|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| On demand | 97 1/2 |
|-----------|--------|

#### ON HAIPHONG.

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| On demand | 3 p.c. p.m. |
|-----------|-------------|

#### ON SAIGON.

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| On demand | 2 p.c. p.m. |
|-----------|-------------|

#### ON BANGKOK.

|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| On demand | 67 1/2 |
|-----------|--------|

SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate \$12.25

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 64.50

BAR SILVER, per oz. 22 1/2



## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—*Glaucus, Hitachi Maru, Inaba Maru, Java, Tantalus.*  
 FOR LONDON.—*Jason, Chusan, Deucalion, Javis, Patroclus, Hyson, Glaucus, Hitachi Maru, Inaba Maru, FOR LIVERPOOL.—Pinguet, Agamemnon.*  
 FOR MARSEILLES.—*Tonkin, Deucalion, Jason, Tantalus, Pinguet, Inaba Maru, Hitachi Maru.*  
 FOR BREMEN.—*Sachsen, Sambla.*  
 FOR HAVRE AND LAMBER.—*Serbia, Segovia, Konigsberg, Sambla, Sargnia.*  
 FOR GENOA.—*Agamemnon.*  
 FOR TRIESTE.—*Frans Ferdinand.*  
 FOR NEW YORK.—*Richmond, Castle, Pembrokehire.*  
 FOR MANZANILLO, MEXICO AND SAN FRANCISCO.—*Chingwo.*  
 FOR DALNY, PORT ARTHUR, VLADIVOSTOK.—*Kital.*  
 FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Tacoma, Keemun, Kaga Maru.*  
 FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of India, Tartar.*  
 FOR PORTLAND (OR).—*Indravelli.*  
 FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—*Taiyuan, Yawata Maru.*  
 FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Hiroshima Maru.*  
 FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO AND BOMBAY.—*Pekin.*  
 FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—*Catherine Apcar.*  
 FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND PENANG.—*Capri.*

## SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, April 9th, 1903.—To-morrow being Good Friday and a holiday, our report is dated a day earlier in the week than usual. Since date of our last the market has ruled fairly active, rates have been well maintained and in many cases show some improvement, while a good steady business has been transacted. At time of closing the general tone of the market is firm with more buying than selling orders.

**BANKS.**—Hongkong and Shanghai, after further small sales at \$692½, a parcel of shares being on offer without finding buyers, the market closes weaker at \$690 and possibly a lower rate would be accepted. The stock, however, is not by any means on offer generally and the slightest demand would quickly again put up rates. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

**MARINE INSURANCES.**—Unions have changed hands in small lots at \$535, China Traders at \$60, Cantons at \$165 and North Chinas at \$200.

**FIRE INSURANCES.**—Hongkongs have improved to \$310 with sales, and Chinas have been placed at \$86, both stocks closing steady at quotations.

**SHIPPING.**—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have found further buyers at \$38½ and close steady at that rate but with sellers at \$39. Indos continue erratic with sales between \$103 and \$108 for cash, and at somewhat lower than equivalent rates forward to June, market closing with buyers at \$106 cash. Douglases remain on offer at \$43 without bringing out buyers. China and Manilas have changed hands at the reduced rate of \$25½. Star Ferries are in request both old and new at quotations. Shell Transports after sales at 27s. 6d. remain on offer at that rate.

**REFINERIES.**—China Sugars have ruled with sellers all the week at \$110 and close steady with buyers at \$19. Luzons unchanged and without business.

**MINING.**—Punjoms have weakened a little with sales and sellers at \$3. Raubs have also declined after sales at \$7½ and \$7 to \$6½. Nothing else under this heading calls for attention.

**DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.**—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled steady to firm at \$215 with sales for cash, and a few unimportant forward transactions at equivalent rates. Kowloon Wharves continue to be enquired for at \$95 without bringing many shares on the market. Farnhams have been on an unsteady market with sales between \$19 and \$19½ closing with sellers at the former rate.

**LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.**—Hongkong Lands have changed hands in fair quantities at \$175½ and close with sellers at that rate. Hotels continue in demand and the rate has advanced to \$145. West Point unchanged and without business. Humphreys have been placed as high as \$12½ and close with buyers at \$24.

**COTTONS.**—Ewos have advanced to 11s. 40, at which rate a few shares are obtainable locally. Hongkongs have declined to \$16 without sales. Other Cottons unchanged and without business.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Green Islands are still in request at \$22½ but the rate brings forth but few shares. A. S. Watsons with an unsatisfied demand at \$14½ have advanced to \$15, at which the market closes with further buyers. Steam Waterboats, United Asbestos and China Providents have found small buyers at quotations.

**MEMOS.**—Final call on Punjoms of 50 cents per share to be paid to Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on or before 9th May.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY.                             | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS.                     |
|--------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Banks—</b>                        |          |                                 |
| Hongkong & Shanghai                  | \$125    | { \$690, sellers<br>L'don, £63. |
| Natl. Bank of China                  |          |                                 |
| A. Shares                            | £8       | \$25, buyers                    |
| B. Shares                            | £8       | \$25, buyers                    |
| Foun. Shares                         | £1       | \$10, sellers                   |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A.                | £1       | \$3, buyers                     |
| Campbell, Moore & Co.                | \$10     | \$42½, sales                    |
| China-Borneo Co., Ltd.               | \$12     | \$10, buyers                    |
| China Light & Power Co., Ltd.        | \$20     | \$10.                           |
| China Prov. L. & M.                  | \$10     | \$9.60, sellers                 |
| China Sugar                          | \$100    | \$109, buyers                   |
| <b>Cigar Companies—</b>              |          |                                 |
| Alhambra Limited                     | \$500    | \$350, sellers                  |
| Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd. | \$50     | 18.                             |
| <b>Cotton Mills—</b>                 |          |                                 |
| Ewo                                  | Tls. 100 | Tls. 40, sellers                |
| International                        | Tls. 75  | Tls. 40, sales                  |
| Laou Kung Mow                        | Tls. 100 | Tls. 40.                        |
| Soychee                              | Tls. 500 | Tls. 160.                       |
| Hongkong                             | \$100    | \$16, sellers                   |
| Dairy Farm                           | \$6      | \$11, buyers                    |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo.                  | \$25     | \$48, buyers                    |
| Green Island Cement                  | \$10     | \$24, buyers                    |
| H. & C. Bakery                       | \$50     | \$40.                           |
| Hongkong & C. Gas                    | £10      | \$140, buyers                   |
| Hongkong Electric                    | \$10     | \$14, sellers                   |
| H. H. L. Tramways                    | \$5      | \$74, buyers                    |
| Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.       | \$100    | \$327.                          |
| Hongkong Hotel                       | \$50     | \$114, sales                    |
| Hongkong Ice                         | \$50     | \$145, buyers                   |
| H. & K. Wharf & G.                   | \$25     | \$232½.                         |
| Hongkong Rope                        | \$50     | \$95, buyers                    |
| H. & W. Dock                         | \$50     | \$112½, buyers                  |
| <b>Insurance—</b>                    |          |                                 |
| Canton                               | \$50     | \$215, buyers                   |
| China Fire                           | \$20     | \$165, buyers                   |
| China Traders                        | \$25     | \$86, sellers                   |
| Hongkong Fire                        | \$25     | \$300, sales & sellers          |
| North China                          | \$50     | \$310, sellers                  |
| Straits                              | £25      | Tls. 200.                       |
| Union                                | \$20     | \$1, nominal                    |
| Yangtze                              | \$100    | \$535, sales                    |
| <b>Land and Building—</b>            |          |                                 |
| Hongkong Land Inv.                   | \$60     | \$140, buyers                   |
| Humphreys Estate                     | \$100    | \$175, sales & sells.           |
| Kowloon Land & B.                    | \$10     | \$124, buyers                   |
| West Point Building                  | \$30     | \$42½, sellers                  |
| Luzon Sugar                          | \$50     | \$55.                           |
| Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.             | \$100    | \$124, sellers                  |
| <b>Mining—</b>                       |          |                                 |
| Charbonnages                         | \$50     | \$15, sales & buyers            |
| Jelebu                               | Fcs. 250 | \$600, sellers                  |
| Punjom                               | \$5      | \$1, buyers                     |
| Do. Preference                       | \$104    | \$3, sellers                    |
| Raubs                                | \$1      | 33 cents, sales                 |
| New Amoy Dock                        | 18       | \$64, sellers                   |
| Oriente Hotel, Manila                | \$64     | \$384.                          |
| Powell, Ltd.                         | \$50     | \$27½.                          |
| Robinson Co. Piano, Ltd.             | \$10     | \$10, buyers                    |
| Steamship Coys.—                     |          |                                 |
| China and Manila                     | \$50     | \$25, sales                     |
| Douglas Steamship                    | \$25     | nominal                         |
| H. Canton and M.                     | \$50     | \$43, sellers                   |
| Indo-China S. N.                     | \$15     | \$384.                          |
| Shel Transport & Trading Co.         | £10      | \$106, buyers                   |
| Star Ferry                           | \$1      | \$21.7s. 6d., sellers           |
| Tebrau Planting Co.                  | \$5      | \$27, buyers                    |
| United Asbestos                      | \$5      | \$14.60, buyers                 |
| Do.                                  | \$4      | nominal.                        |
| Universal Trading Co., Ltd.          | \$10     | \$8½, sales                     |
| Watkins Ltd.                         | \$10     | \$155.                          |
| Watson & Co., A. S.                  | \$5      | \$22, buyers                    |
|                                      | \$10     | \$74, sellers                   |
|                                      | \$10     | \$15, buyers                    |

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

| ARRIVALS.                                      | DEPARTURES.                                    |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 2. Bjorn, Norwegian str., from Sourabaya.      | 3. Candia, British str., for Singapore.        |
| 2. Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.       | 3. China, German str., for Saigon.             |
| 2. P. C. C. Kiao, German str., from Bangkok.   | 3. Fansang, British str., for Swatow.          |
| 2. Shantung, German str., from Poochow.        | 3. Glory, British battleship, for Kobe.        |
| 3. Ailsa Craig, British str., from K'ofoan.    | 3. Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.          |
| 3. Ap-made, German str., from Hoihow.          | 3. Kenseu, British str., for Shanghai.         |
| 3. Capri, Italian str., from Bombay.           | 3. Kohsichang, German str., for Hongay.        |
| 3. Chingwo, British str., from London.         | 3. Mongkut, German str., for Bangkok.          |
| 3. Flintshire, British str., from London.      | 3. Sleipner, Norwegian str., for Nagasaki.     |
| 3. Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.        | 3. Taichow, German str., for Bangkok.          |
| 3. Hermes, Norwegian str., from Canton.        | 4. Ailsa Craig, British str., for Kutchinotsu. |
| 3. Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.           | 4. Amigo, German str., for Tsingtau.           |
| 3. Huron, British str., from Moji.             | 4. Chingtu, British str., for Australia.       |
| 3. Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.          | 4. Helena, American gunboat, for Amoy.         |
| 3. Nippon Maru, Jap. str., from S. Francisco.  |                                                |
| 4. Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.          |                                                |
| 4. Freiburg, German str., from Moji.           |                                                |
| 4. Kowloon, German str., from Yangtsze.        |                                                |
| 4. Perla, British str., from Manila.           |                                                |
| 4. Progress, German str., from Tounon.         |                                                |
| 4. Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.       |                                                |
| 4. Zweena, British str., from Sourabaya.       |                                                |
| 5. Eastern, British str., from Kobe.           |                                                |
| 5. Heathdene, British str., from Kutchinotsu.  |                                                |
| 5. Jason, British str., from Liverpool.        |                                                |
| 5. Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.      |                                                |
| 5. Onsang, British str., from Moji.            |                                                |
| 5. Stanley Dollar, Danish str., from Moji.     |                                                |
| 5. Sydney, French str., from Yokohama.         |                                                |
| 5. Thales, British str., from Swatow.          |                                                |
| 5. Yuensang, British str., from Manila.        |                                                |
| 6. Agamemnon, British str., from Liverpool.    |                                                |
| 6. Argo, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.          |                                                |
| 6. Ayr, British str., from Moji.               |                                                |
| 6. Berneo, German str., from Sandakan.         |                                                |
| 6. Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.           |                                                |
| 6. Catherine Apcar, Brit. str., from Calcutta. |                                                |
| 6. Gaea, Norwegian str., from Sourabaya.       |                                                |
| 6. Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.  |                                                |
| 6. Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.          |                                                |
| 6. Karin, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.         |                                                |
| 6. Michael Jensen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.   |                                                |
| 6. Saphir, Norwegian str., from Saigon.        |                                                |
| 6. Shanghai, British str., from London.        |                                                |
| 6. Sikh, British str., from Glasgow.           |                                                |
| 7. Anamba, Danish str., from Canton.           |                                                |
| 7. Glongarry, British str., from London.       |                                                |
| 7. Haiching, British str., from Swatow.        |                                                |
| 7. Hansa, German str., from Canton.            |                                                |
| 7. Idzumi Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.      |                                                |
| 7. Itria, British str., from Rangoon.          |                                                |
| 7. Ivydene, British str., from Saigon.         |                                                |
| 7. Kinkiang, British str., from Hankow.        |                                                |
| 7. Kampot, French str., from Saigon.           |                                                |
| 7. Kanagawa Maru, Jap. str., from London.      |                                                |
| 7. Kouh Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.        |                                                |
| 7. Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.        |                                                |
| 7. S.beria, American str., from S. Francisco.  |                                                |
| 7. Singan, British str., from Shanghai.        |                                                |
| 7. Tacoma, American str., from Tacoma.         |                                                |
| 7. Taishan, British str., from Kohsichang.     |                                                |
| 7. Whampoa, British str., from Canton.         |                                                |
| 7. Yarra, French str., from Marseilles.        |                                                |
| 7. Rubi, British str., for Manila.             |                                                |
| 7. Seirstad, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.        |                                                |
| 8. Australian, British str., from Australia.   |                                                |
| 8. Benvorlich, British str., from Rangoon.     |                                                |
| 8. Borg, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.         |                                                |
| 8. Dagmar, Norwegian str., from Quinhon.       |                                                |
| 8. Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.    |                                                |
| 8. Emma Luyken, German str., from Wuhu.        |                                                |
| 8. Formosa, British str., from Manila.         |                                                |
| 8. Haitan, British str., from Swatow.          |                                                |
| 8. J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.  |                                                |
| 8. Lennox, British str., from Moji.            |                                                |
| 8. Ompenter, British str., from Moji.          |                                                |
| 9. Repton, British str., from Moji.            |                                                |
| 9. Savoia, German str., from Mororan.          |                                                |



4. Kamakura Maru, Japanese str., for London.  
 4. K'n lucky, American battleship, for Amoy.  
 4. Loongsang, British str., for Manila.  
 4. New Orleans, American cruiser, for Amoy.  
 4. Oregon, American cruiser, for Amoy.  
 4. Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.  
 4. Serbia, German str., for Japan.  
 4. Sleipner, Norwegian str., for Hongay.  
 4. Tyr, Norwegian str., for Hongay.  
 4. Vicksburg, American gunboat, for Amoy.  
 4. Zafiro, British str., for Manila.  
 5. Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., for Hoihow.  
 5. Apenrade, German str., for Hoihow.  
 5. Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.  
 5. Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.  
 5. Hailong, British str., for Swatow.  
 5. Huron, British str., for Moji.  
 5. Lena, Norwegian str., for Wuhu.  
 6. Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Canton.  
 6. Flintshire, British str., for Shanghai.  
 6. Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.  
 6. Karin, Norwegian str., for Canton.  
 6. Kingsing, British str., for Shanghai.  
 6. Kowloon, German str., for Canton.  
 6. Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.  
 6. Proques, Norwegian str., for Manila.  
 6. Pronto, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.  
 6. Taifu, German str., for Canton.  
 6. Peleuse, British str., for Singapore.  
 7. Bangkok, German str., for Bangkok.  
 7. Hermes, Norwegian str., for Hankow.  
 7. Isla de Cuba, U.S. gunboat, for Manila.  
 7. Jason, British str., for Shanghai.  
 7. Kumsang, British str., for Calcutta.  
 7. Kwangles, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 7. Pronto, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.  
 7. Sydney, French str., for Europe.  
 7. Thales, British str., for Swatow.  
 7. Tientsin, British str., for Shanghai.  
 7. Tosa Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.  
 7. Victoria, Swedish str., for Wuhu.  
 7. Yarra, French str., for Shanghai.  
 7. Yuensang, British str., for Manila.  
 8. Agamemnon, British str., for Shanghai.  
 8. Anping Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.  
 8. Behvorlich, British str., for Japan.  
 8. Eclipse, British gunboat, for Taku.  
 8. Else, German str., for Wuhu.  
 8. Freiburg, German str., for Moulmein.  
 8. Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.  
 8. Hanoi, French str., for Pakhoi.  
 8. Hansa, German str., for Wuhu.  
 8. Idzumi Maru, Japanese str., for Bombay.  
 8. Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.  
 8. Perla, British str., for Manila.  
 8. Saphir, Norwegian str., for Canton.  
 8. Seirstad, Norwegian str., for Canton.  
 8. Shanghai, British str., for Shanghai.  
 8. Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.  
 8. Talbot, British cruiser, for Shanghai.  
 8. Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.  
 9. Chowfa, German str., for Amoy.  
 9. Eastern, British str., for Australia.  
 9. Emma Luyken, Ger. str., for Canton.  
 9. Olympia, American str., for Tacoma.  
 9. Progress, German str., for Tounon.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per Nippon Maru, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Burtchall, Hon. and Mrs. Arthur Hill, Mrs. B. Hanchett, Mrs. H. Musgrave, Mrs. H. Lee, Dr. G. A. Moore, Mrs. S. Patton, Mrs. M. D. Marsh, Mrs. G. Osborn, Mrs. Gillette, Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Scaife, Mr. and Mrs. McGovney and infant, Mrs. O. F. Campbell, Mrs. B. H. Sherman, Mrs. S. D. Tanderpool, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Bann, Mr. and Mrs. D. Carman, Miss Carman, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Hayman, Mrs. G. Mills, Mrs. Oliver, Mr. and Mrs. Gandy, Misses P. A. Brewer, K. Fowler, M. Grouy, Helen Kyde, Ida Finley, E. F. Blandin, H. Gillette, E. Brenizer, Whitney and Cooley, Drs. W. E. Cluness and S. D. Tanderpool, Capt. O. J. Brown, General C. F. Humphrey and Master Humphrey, Major Bradley and Lieut. E. W. Townsend, Messrs. N. D. Litt, E. M. Fowler, C. E. Benjamin, R. H. Sherman, Thos. Barnham and two children, A. Levy, P. T. Longbery, D. W. Johnson, R. C. Giles, S. Nakayama, D. E. Corley, A. A. Sachse, W. B. Hathaway, J. D. Kilpatrick, J. G. Embree, W. B. Ellis, H. E. Keith, G. W. Clyde, G. M. Brown, E. A. Coalington, R. E. Whitney, J. G. Jern, Egar, C. K. Davis, A. R. Hager, D. S. Oliver, J. E. Collamore, F. S. Cairns, J. W. Rennell, and W. R. Rosencrans.

Per Perla, from Manila, Messrs. Lawson and Drummond.  
 Per Sungkiang, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Bard, Mrs. W. H. Bishop and two children, Mrs. M. Gale, Mrs. A. M. Miller, Mrs. G. C. Shaw, Mrs. F. A. Bager, Mrs. Rita, Misses M. Cranes, A. Fernandez and J. Woodward, Messrs. E. A. Clapper, O. H. Presby, T. F. Cass, J. M. Reade, W. J. Pointer, W. J. Richardson, R. Gonzalez, N. Wittenberger, J. Reid, H. M. Cambell, B. E. Neal, A. F. Gray, R. A. Wallef, P. Blum, T. M. Martin and W. N. Rigdon, Capt. C. F. Bruguere and Dr. F. A. Bayer.  
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 Per Uria, from Rangoon, Messrs. J. Winter and Moxon.  
 Per Hailan, from Swatow, Mr. and Mrs. Cumming, Messrs. Altwood and J. C. Nicholls.  
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DEPARTED.

Per Kamakura Maru, for Singapore, &c., Major and Mrs. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. David Wood and infant, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Jupp and two children, Mrs. Larkins and two children, Mrs. H. Dare and infant, Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Miss Taylor, Messrs. C. H. Gale, A. J. May, H. Trowbridge, R. D. Webster, W. E. O. Stanford, T. Yasni, John Burns, E. F. Mouldon, K. Oguri, H. Tadokoro, T. Suto, S. Horiuchi, S. Nakamura, N. Ichigima, K. Kawaha, T. Nakail, H. Nagai, H. Akiyama, M. Hitta, Carl Gaentz, Abaror and Handelsmann.  
 Per Loongsang, for Manila, Mrs. and Miss Sherman, Masters Edward and Robert Sherman, Messrs. E. E. Schneider and H. C. White.  
 Per Zafiro, for Manila, Mrs. L. Lytton, Mr. D. H. Paddock, Miss S. B. Paddock, Messrs. E. Bethgen, L. H. Borton, P. W. Littler, W. C. Hartridge, Juan Patel, Juan Ontanez, Moriano Myraz, H. E. Edwards, Silvano de Cenlos, Pablo Buldan, Victoriano Ermy, Emiliano Casasas, C. de Lada, Claro Filisiano, Pedro Lebaton, Josibio Masis, Juan Unan, Tonio Patatino, Vinencio Prucly, Balariano Ann, Santiago Oriancio, Prociso Solifar, Pacito Cnsanan, Estaban Fabayo, Demetrio Mamilgol, Alajo Preno, Juan Pabillo, Demas Gomerre, Gooian, Catabino Sanico, Juan Bylon, Baltayar Aggie, Pacifico Donera, Philippa Gallos, Pomingo Millane, Adriano Bueno, Lorenzo Pedrosa, Apoliano De Lapaz, S. J. Reyes and K. B. Schley.  
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